

MOTORING

The killing season on Britain's roads

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SOVEREIGNTY

Archbishop on the crown at Christmas

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When shopping was women's work

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MEDIA ON WEDNESDAY Page 27

No. 64,523

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 23 1992

45p

US threat to use cruise missiles against Serbs

By Nicholas Wood and Our Foreign Staff

AMERICA is prepared to launch cruise missile attacks on Serbian airfields to enforce the air exclusion zone over Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Pentagon disclosed yesterday as the Western allies put the finishing touches to a draft UN resolution aimed at curbing Sech aggregate in the ing Serb aggression in the former Yugoslav republic.
The draft authorising mili-

tary action could be ready today, and John Major told troops during a surprise visit to Bosnia yesterday that it would be put to the security council within days. "What is happening across Bosnia is not acceptable." he said. "We all know of the atrocities that are being committed and I think it has to be made clear that those aren't acceptable."

The prime minister hardened his stance against the Serbs as central European foreign ministers urged President Bush to take forceful action within a month or Sarajevo could fall. The Penta-

President Bush is to spend New Year visiting US troops in Somalia. The White House said yesterday he will stay overnight on December 31 to show "US concern for the people of Somalia, our commitment to humanitarian assistance and our support for American and UN forces".

Troops advance, page 8

gon is already refining plans for fighters and bombers to mount air patrols over Bosnia and for cruise missiles to be fired on Serbian runways if the Serbs continue to violate

the "no-fly" zone. Britain and France are reluctant, however, to allow allied pilots to shoot down Serb planes or to bomb airfields, and Germany is also taking a more cautious approach. Its diplomats asked Nato to delay sending the UN details of the alliance's plans while they checked how the strategy would be received in Germany, whose constitution forbids the deployment of its

forces outside the Nato area. Lord Owen, co-chairman of the Geneva peace talks on Yugoslavia, also advised cau-

er irin

tion, telling NBC television: Pass the resolution this week by all means, but hesitate long and hard before you enforce. because it would gravely damage the whole humanitarian effort this winter."

During his day-long visit to the 2,400-strong British con-tingent in Bosnia yesterday, Mr Major emphasised the importance of the aid effort and promised that the troops' safety would be uppermost in his mind. He said he had gone to the battlefield to see the terrain and talk to commanders "so that I am in a far better

Talkber 1

Births, marriages,

Court and Social.

Concise crossword...

deaths .

Law Report

Obituaries.

TV & radio

Sport...

Christmas visit. John Major with Field Marshal Sir Richard Vincent, chief of the defence staff, in the Croatian town of Split yesterday

position to make judgments than before", but he made clear that tough action was almost inevitable when he said: "There is a security council resolution applying a 'no-fly zone. I don't think we

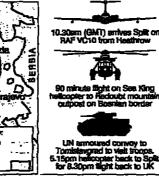
can allow that to be flouted." Sir David Hannay, the British ambassador to the UN was last night involved in urgent talks in New York about the mechanics of enforcing the flights ban. The Foreign Office said Britain was seeking "maximum flexibility" while trying to restrain American hawks. Under the terms of the draft being negotiated last night, the allies would be authorised to take "all necessary means" to enforce the ban. They would, however, have to clear action such as shooting down Serbian planes

Bourros Bourros-Ghali.

or bombing their airfields with

"We want to give them a free hand to do what they have to do, but not so free they can bomb the hell out of the Serbs without consulting the secretary-general," a Foreign Office official said. The resolution would also specify the date

MAJOR'S JOURNEY INTO BOSNIA CROATIA BOSNIA- Tucia HERZEGOVINA 0



from which the flight ban would be enforced, although the length of the deadline was

Michael Meacher, the shadow overseas development minister, called last night for a short deadline, claiming that the Serbs had had enough warning. He also said it was time seriously to consider air strikes against Serb artillery. Mr Meacher condemned Mr Major's visit to the front-line as a deplorable photo-

opportunity.
The prime minister, wear-

ing a flak jacket under his wax jacket, had travelled by helicopter and Range Rover across mountains to reach the redoubt, a forward post about 50 miles from the Croatian border. He handed out pop music cassettes to the troops and told them: "There will be a lot more people who will see a lot more Christmases because you are sacrificing your Christmas here."

Rape as a weapon, page 6 Simon Jeokins, page 12 Letters, page 13

Princess misses Christmas morning with her children

By Alan Hamilton

THE Princess of Wales will not be joining the royal family at Sandringham for the seasonal celebrations and will spend Christmas day morning without Prince William, ten. BUTING TRE TIMES OVERSEAS
AUSTRIA SCH 32: BELGIUM B FRF 60:
CANADA 52:75; CANARIES PES 225;
CYPKUS 90 CENTS, DERMARK DER 16-00;
FDILAND MER 15-00; FRANCE F 12-00;
GERMANY DM 4,00; GIBRAITAR 807;
GERMANY DM 4,00; LUTEMA
BOURG LF 90; MADEIRA SCS 275; MALTA
43C, MOROCCÓ DIE 25-00; NORWAY KA
16.00; TAKUFTAN RPS 18; TORTUGAL SC
275; SPANDEN SKE 16-00;
SWATZERHAND 6 FRS 3,80; TUNISA DIN
2-00; USA 83.00 and Prince Harry, eight. The princess is expected to stay with Earl Spencer, her brother, and his family at Althorp House in Northamptonshire.

It had been thought that the princess would spend Christ-mas with her children, despite the announcement of her marriage separation. But yesterday's developments show the importance attached by the royal family to the status of the second and third in line to the

The princes are to divide their time over the holiday

break between their parents, though royal sources are leaving the arrangements vague in an attempt to protect their privacy. The princess has constantly emphasised in her public comments the importance of maintaining the closest links with her children. The wrench is likely to prove painful for the princess, who is known to freasure every minute of her time with her

Royal sources confirmed that the princess had been, and would continue to be, invited to family occasions at Sandringham and Balmoral. It is understood, however, that in view of the circumstances she decided it would be better to stay away from Sandringham this Christmas. The Duchess of York, who separated from the duke this summer. will spend Christmas at Wood Farm, on the Sandringham estate, with Princesses Beatrice, four, and Eugenie, two. It is thought unlikely that they will attend the traditional church service and Christmas hinch at Sandringham, although the duke is expected to spend time with his family. The Queen also is known to want to see

granddaughters. The royal party at Sandringham will include the Queen, who arrived on Sunday and recorded her Christmas message to the Commonwealth, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Continued on page 2, col 4

Nervous Yeltsin cancels summit

FROM ANNE McELVOY IN MOSCOW

AMID uncertainty over the future of his economic reforms, President Yeltsin yesterday withdrew from the Commonwealth of Independent States summit scheduled for Minsk on Christmas day. The gathering of leaders of ten former Soviet republics, called to discuss a charter on closer ties, has been postponed until next month.

Mr Yeltsin, who cut short his visit to China at the weekend, gave the official reason for his withdrawal as a mild cold, but he appears keen not to leave the Moscow area while there are doubts about the direction of the new government expected to be appointed today, with his approval, by Viktor Chernomyrdin, the prime minister.

The cabinet announcement

was due yesterday but was delayed, apparently by a lastminute wrangle over the posts and responsibilities of radical ministers. Pyotr Aven, the foreign trade minister respon-sible for rescheduling the former Soviet debt, resigned in a terse one-line message giving no reason. He is thought to have been sacrificed by Mr Yeltsin in return for other young liberals re-

maining in place. Two other key reformist ministers, Anatoli Chubais, who is responsibe for privatisation, and Aleksandr Shokhin, a deputy prime minister, both of whom are members of "inner core" who

launched the economic reform programme under Yegor Gaidar, Mr Chernomyrdin's more radical predecessor, retreated with Mr Yeltsin to his country residence.

Allies consulted, page 7

Garel-Jones shocks MPs with decision to resign By Peter Riddell, political editor TRISTAN Garel-Jones, For-

eign Office minister of state and one of the prime minister's strongest allies, will resign from the government next year after he has completed handling the Maastricht bill in the Commons.

Friends and senior ministers said last night that his decision was entirely personal and did not reflect any differences over policy. His move to the back benches will, however, remove one of Mr Major's closest friends and shrewdest advisers. He has been a controversial figure with Tory Eurosceptics because of his vocal advocacy of the treaty.

The news stunned MPs. George Robertson, his Lab-our shadow on European affairs, described it as deeply puzzling. He said: "It will inevitably be seen as a victory by the Thatcherite Eurosceptics. Tristan Garel-Jones is a master of the political undergrowth, but an unlikely victim of the heat. A minister with one foot on the back benches is hardly the best pilot for the Maastricht bill through its five-month committee stage." William Cash, a leading Euro-sceptic, said it was difficult to see an important bill being handled by someone who is

going to the back benches. Mr Garel-Jones, who is 51, told The Times yesterday he had "never regarded politics as the central part of my life. I have never been a long distance runner in politics". He wanted to pursue personal interests, such as small family businesses in Spain, and his collection of modern

Spanish paintings. In an exchange of letters with the prime minister, he

Holiday

air crash

kills 158

in Libya

By MIKE THEODOULOU

BRITISH workers heading home for Christmas are feared

to have been among the 158

people killed when a Libyan

Boeing 727 crashed on an internal flight from Benghazi

to Tripoli yesterday. Libya said

A Libyan Arab Airlines offi-

cial said reports were being investigated that the jet collid-

ed in mid-air with a Libyan

military aircraft whose crew

Libya's official news agency, Jana, did not identify the

"several nationalities" on board, but large numbers of

Britons, Italians, Germans

and Americans work in the

nected handily with the hydro-

foil from Tripoli to Malta, bringing people out for the Christmas holidays," the For-

eign Office said. "It is possible

there were Britons on the

flight, though we have no confirmation."

Jana's report said the Boeing 727 crashed at 10.07 am local time. An air-

line official said it came down

35 miles south-east of Tripoli.

Libya has had only internal

flights since April, when the

United Nations imposed sanc-

tions after Tripoli's refusal to

hand over two men suspected

of blowing up Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie four years

ago. Monday was the anniver-

sary of that bombing, in which

270 people died. Adding to

the coincidence, the Libyan

The 3,600 Britons still in

Libya have been advised not to

use internal flights because of

salety fears. Last month Libya

flight number was 1103.

"The flight would have con-

there were no survivors.

parachuted to safety.

Libyan oil industry.

recalled that he had asked Mr Major in summer last year "if, after the general election, I might be allowed to return to the back benches". He was asked to continue to see through the British EC presidency and the Maastricht bill.

He said it was certainly his wish to see the bill through. but Mr Major had known for some time "that I hanker after a change". Mr Major said he fully understood his reasons for wanting to step down "at a convenient moment. It is characteristic of you to wish to see through

Brittan takes on EC trade talks

SIR Leon Brittan, Britain's senior European Commissioner, takes over trade in a reshuffle by Jacques Delors, the EC president. Foreign affairs will be split between Sir Leon and Hans van den

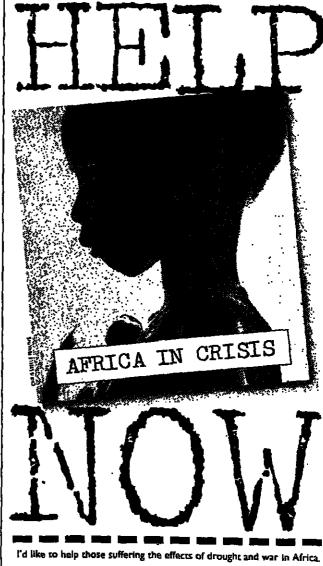
Leading article, page 13

the legislation you have been working on and it is what your colleagues would have expected of you".

Mr Garel Jones's timing is a surprise, but yesterday he said he was fed up with keeping the secret and wanted to clarify the position.

His departure will trigger a ministerial reshuffle in midsummer or .early autumn. His announcement follows confirmation yesterday that Mr Major is not planning an early reshuffle.

Arch-conspirator and Life at the top, page 4



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said its aircraft were dangerously short of spares. Sanctions discounted, page 9

Heseltine defiance on closures angers unions

By JILL SHERMAN POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government and British Coal were heading for a further clash with miners last night as unions condemned Michael Heseltine's announcement that coal production would not resume at the ten doorned pits despite Monday's High Court decision that the decision to close all 31 pits was unlawful.

The president of the board of trade, who faced renewed calls for his resignation, was also warned by a senior Tory backbencher that this time he must make the right decision otherwise the government "would be in very serious

Private coal companies bid for pits on hit list

By Ross Tieman INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

FIVE of the ten pits ear-marked for early closure by British Coal in October could be saved, according to independent experts.

Private mining companies have applied to take over two of the pits, while an independent study suggests that two South Yorkshire collieries could become profitable. Ex-perts also say that Trentham, Britain's biggest mine, has large reserves and offers scope for efficiency improvements.

The growing evidence that some of the pits have been unreasonably condemned will add to the pressure on Michael Heseltine, president of the board of trade.

The Department of Trade and Industry was yesterday seeking support from trade union leaders and other interested groups for the appointment of John T Boyd, an American mining consultancy, to conduct a study of the pits' prospects. Boyd would also ensure that British Coal keeps its promise to maintain the fabric of the mines so they

could be reopened. Union leaders say the condition of some of the mines has already deteriorated because of subsidence and roof falls, and that work needs to be quickly resumed at the nine pits already shut if the option of reopening is to be main-tained. British Coal has taken mining equipment from some for use elsewhere, adding to the difficulty and cost of resuming operations.

There may be objections to Boyd conducting an assessment on the grounds that the firm might have prejudged the issue. Last year, it was hired by the industry department to evaluate the prospects of 28 pits, including five of the ten earmarked for early

A Boyd official, Ronald Lewis, was questioned about the findings by the Commons' trade and industry select committee last month. He told the

Mark Stephens, solicitor for the National Union of Mineworkers, immediately accused Mr Heseltine of being "close to contempt of court". Unions are now taking separate legal action in Nottingham over British Coal's decision to pay non-working miners only basic pay while the future of their pits is decided.

Sir Rhodes Boyson, Tory MP for Brent North told BBC's evening news that it was imperative that the government" gets it right this time". Mr Heseltine had to be fair to the miners, the country and the coal industry. "If the government doesn't do this it will be in very serious trouble

One hundred and fifty min-Silverhill colliery in Nottingham, which is earmarked for closure but British Coal refused to let them into the pit. sending them home with a bottle of whisky and a Christmas bonus. All miners will stop work today for the Christmas break, unsure whether their jobs are still under threat.

Mr Heseltine is still hoping that the government's white paper on the future of the coal industry will be presented by the first week of February. British Coal said last night that it would alter its consultation procedure to ensure there was an independent element. Lord Justice Clidewell ordered that no

final decision be taken on ers turned up for work at closing the ten collieries until the unions and British Coal had agreed a review procedure for each pit, including independent scrutiny.

The company, which is still accepting miners' applications for voluntary redundancy. would also be looking at what Mr Heseltine has said about Boyds, the consultants. British Coal is unsure if the company. which is already assisting the government in its review of the 21 pits, would be seen as sufficiently "independent" for the unions.

British Coal also had doubts last night about whether the consultation procedure could be completed by the January

Bert Sage, branch secretary of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers said "We won in the High court but this morning we are not allowed to work the coal. It is a bit of a hollow victory."

Mr. Heseltine earlier an-

nounced that mining would not re-start at the ten pits and this was not necessary under Monday's judgment. British Coal last night agreed the same line. "It is clear that there is no requirement to resume coal production (at the ten pits), nor is there a market for the output," said a spokesman. Production has stopped at all of the threatened pits. except Betwys colliery in South Wales, which is expected to be mined till the middle of next

Arthur Scargill, NUM president said it appeared that Mr Heseltine would not accept the court judgement "If he has any integrity he will resign."

Earlier Labour presented 14 sackloads of petitions to 10 Downing Street demanding that the original plan to close 31 pits and axe 30,000 jobs be reversed

☐ Michael Heseltine's decision as environment secretary to close down the London Borough of Haringey's refuse collection service was overturned by the High Court yesterday. Judges ruled the closure, due to take effect in the new year, was legally flawed and must be reconsid-

IRA bomb explodes in Underground

NEWS IN BRIEF 1

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A small IRA bomb exploded on a platform at Hampstead Underground station in north London yesterday at the start of the evening rush hour. Several people were taken to the Royal Free Hospital suffering from shock but there were no

4.32pm from a man claiming to represent the IRA that bombs would explode at Hampstead and Archway stations, on separate branches of the Northern Line. A second warning was received by the Samaritans at 4.38pm. No time was given for the bombs and the device at Hampstead exploded at 4.48pm. Trains were halted on the Northern. Line and traffic congestion built up as the areas around the stations were sealed off by police.

The bomb is the first direct attack on an Underground station in the present mainland campaign. Firebombs have been put on trains and three bombs have been found in the car parks of north London stations. Last week, two bombs exploded inside and outside the John Lewis department

Soccer arsonists jailed

Seven football supporters were jailed after setting fire to their rivals' ground when their team lost. The Bristol City supporters set alight Bristol Rovers' adopted ground in Bath supporters set alight Bristol Rovers' adopted ground in bath after watching City lose at West Bromwich in 1990. The men, all from Bristol, had either admitted or been convicted last month of their parts in the fire. Christopher Green, 23, was jailed for nine months for conspiracy to commit arson. James Gidney, 23, Richard Holbrook, 21, Shaun Ford, 26, and Micheal Mullins, 28, were jailed for eight months for the same offence and Nichella Lagu. 22 for saven months. the same offence and Nicholas Lacey, 22, for seven months, Alan Hemmings, 26, was jailed for two months for assisting others in an arrestable offence.

BBC blamed for death

The parents of a teenager who hanged himself days after watching the television spoof Ghostwatch are continuing to blame the BBC for his death. A coroner yesterday recorded a verdict that Martin Denham, 18, of Nottingham, killed himself on November 5. He was found hanging from a tree with a length of hosepipe around his neck. A note in his pocket said: "Please don't worry — if there are ghosts I will. be a ghost and I will be with you always as a ghost." His stepfather, Percy Denham, said: "He was a very nervous lad. He thought there were ghosts in our home." After the hearing a BBC solicitor said that the corporation and the programme makers had expressed their sympathy.

Festive pay winners

Some workers who forfeit traditional family celebrations on Christmas day are compensated with four times their normal rate of pay, according to a survey published today. AA patrolmen do best with four times normal pay on Christmas day, while British Nuclear Fuels will pay double the normal rate plus time off in lieu. But Mike Smith, a spokesman for the TUC, said: "A Scrooge element does exist and neople on low incomes are often expected to work for little reward." The survey, by Income Data Services, disclosed that most companies are not as generous about holidays and are reluctant to allow employees to carry over unused time off into the new year.

Opt-out enquiry starts

John Patten, right, the education secretary, yesterday ordered an enquiry into a local authority campaign against opting out at the prime minister's old school in Merton, southwest London. Parents at Rutlish School voted against a proposal to opt out in a ballot held last month. But Mr Patten has accused the council of "telling porkies" to win a majority. The



education department last night gave the council a fortnight to explain statements in a letter sent to Rutlish parents by Sheila Knight, chairman of the education committee. Mr Patten has threatened to order that new ballots be held where he considers there have been irregularities in campaigning. Merton has strongly denied misleading parents and had already made its campaign material available for independent inspection. The proposal to opt out was defeated by 542 votes to 150.

Charges dropped

Prosecution officials have dropped charges against Ron McKay, a reporter for Scotland on Sunday, who was arrested after the paper carried articles investigating a break-in at Lothian and Borders police headquarters. Mr McKay was charged with reset, the offence of handling or seeing stolen property. The Crown Office said that it had dropped the charges after considering a "full report" from the procurator fiscal. There have been no charges in connection with the break-in, in which crime squad documents were stolen. Scotland on Sunday said yesterday. "It was absurd that this charge should ever have been made against a journalist pursuing legitimate enquiries."

Councillor admonished

The leader of the Tory group on Edinburgh District Council yesterday pleaded guilty to making nuisance telephone calls to her husband's former wife. Christine Richard, 49, of Edinburgh, admitted making six calls to Lady Angela Buchan-Hepburn and her family at their home in Peebles from January to April this year. Mrs Richard was admonished by Edinburgh Sheriff Court, which means a note of the conviction is left on the record but there is no penalty. Depute-fiscal Isabel Clark said Lady Buchan-Hepburn and John Richard were divorced in the early 1970s and there had been "some unpleasantness" between them.

During the calls, nothing was said before the caller hung up.

Ice cream co-op planned

Workers made redundant at the Lyons Maid ice cream factory at Kirkby, Merseyside, plan to take over the business as a workers' co-operative. The 70 workers occupied part of the plant two months ago in protest at the closure. Nestle UK confirmed yesterday that the possibility of employees running part of the ice cream factory had been discussed. Last summer the Kirkby factory produced about three million ice lollies a week. Nestle acquired Clarke Foods, owner of Lyons Maid, from the receiver last month.

Ex-IRA man freed

Patrick Leo Nash, a former IRA member who claimed police officers repeatedly beat him up during interrogation, walked free from Belfast Crown Court yesterday after being cleared of 20 charges. Sir Brian Hutton, the Lord Chief Justice for Northern Ireland, said: "Even though 1 do not believe. Nash's evidence that he invented his confessions, the law requires me to exclude them from evidence because I am not satisfied they were not induced by violence." The charges included aiding and abetting in the murder of a taxi-driver.



Support in the bag: Labour MPs Dennis Skinner, Robin Cook and Glenda Jackson deliver a petition against the pit closures to Downing Street

committee that some of the ten pits had prospects for improved productivity, but he was not convinced they could be made viable in the longer

The five pits in the first wave of closures examined by Boyd include Betws at Ammanford, Dyfed. It is the only one of the ten still working and now appears almost certain to survive. Ryan International, a private mining group based in South Wales, has applied to British Coal to take it over.

Malcolm Edwards, former commercial director of British Coal, has applied to take over and reopen Markham Main colliery near Doncaster. South Yorkshire. Mr Edwards is confident that he and his Australian backers can operate Markham profitably, producing 600,000 tonnes of coal a year to sell to domestic and industrial markets in place of

Independent experts suggest the potential viability of three other pits on the closure list merits careful assessment. Like Markham, the Grimethorpe and Houghton Main

collieries produce high-quality coal. Half their production goes not into the powergeneration market, where British Coal faces stiff rivalry from gas, but to industrial

According to a study by Sheffield Business School for Barnsley Council, Grimethorpe could make a profit

tion. Houghton Main, the report said, would take four years to break even and could be profitable in seven. The re-

port concluded that the cost to the taxpayer of closing the pits would amount to £330 million over the next ten years. If retained, they would produce a net profit of £48 million.

Trentham in Staffordshire, where 1,544 miners produced 2.3 million tonnes of coal last year, has vast reserves of coal that should command a good price because of its relatively

low sulphur content. Productivity could be improved, say critics of British Coal. But the colliery's biggest problem is that much of its coal goes to the Fiddler's Ferry power sta-tion in Cheshire, which can easily be supplied with cheap imported coal from America

or Australia. The remaining mines, Vane Cotgrave and

'If retained the

pits would

produce a net

profit of £48m

Silverhill in Nottingham-Taff Merthyr in Wales, appear to have fewer prospects of a iong-term

over ten years' future because of their high costs, geological problems or poor profitability. At the heart of the

problem lies the question of the future size of the market. Privatisation of the electricity industry some two years ago was accompanied by a series of moves designed to

maximise returns to the Treasury and allow a gradual build

fast. Unwanted coal is piling effectively on price within five up at pitheads and power But British Coal also needs stations at the rate of a million tonnes a month. At the last count, Britain's coal mountain was 46 million tonnes.

The protected nuclear industry has the right to sell all the power it can produce. By improving efficiency, it has ensure only economic gas from 17 per cent to 20 per

Coal's market is shrinking

Also, the sub-sea power cable to France, conceived as a two-way device to help each country to cope with demand peaks, has turned into a oneway conduit for surplus French nuclear power. And in an effort to cut costs,

the two big power generators have begun experimenting with Orimulsion, a cheap mixture of bitumen and water, which could make their overexpensive oil-burning plants competitive.

Enlarging the market for British Coal is a matter of redressing market distortions. The first measure is internal: a drive to cut production costs below those of imports, so that

help. The government could: resist proposals to extend the lives of Britain's ageing Magnox nuclear plants, add

the company can compete

ing five million tonnes a year to the coal market; stations can operate, adding □ block the one-way French connection, adding six million

□ limit use of Orimulsion. adding three million tonnes; □ and support the maintenance of strategic coal stocks to ensure they are reduced only

In evidence to the industry department enquiry, the government has also been urged to halt construction of the

Sizewell B nuclear plant.

Some combination of these measures is likely to be recommended by the select committee and adopted by the government in its white paper on energy markets, expected in early February.

Mining review, page 20

Police made £2,000 claim for keeping man in cell for day

By Michael Dynes, whitehall correspondent

POLICE forces charged the Home Office £30 in one case and £2,008 in another for keeping one man in the cells for a day, the government's spending watchdog has found.

Seven police officers could have been deployed for the £2,008 Dyfed-Powys levied. The same sum could have bought three nights in a suite

Although one of the highest individual claims submitted to the Home Office, it is by no means isolated. West Yorkshire police, for example, charged the Home Office £1,803 a day for each of the 39 prisoners it held between June and August 1991, while Lancashire charged £1,176 a day for each of the 25 prisoners held in October that year.

CORRECTION

A report (December 16) concerning the Bishop of Gloucester, the Right Rev Peter Ball. incorrectly quoted Brother Kenneth, prior of the Community of the Glorious Ascension, as saying members of that order are called to be chaste. In fact, Brother Kenneth said that Christians are called to be chaste; chastity is required of all members of the order by virtue of a vow of

By contrast, the 633 prisoners held by Surrey in June the same year cost just £30 each a day. It is not surprising then that questions have been asked this week by the Nat-ional Audit Office, about the varying charges made by police authorities for holding prisoners until they can be found places in prison. Sir John Bourn, the head of

the audit office, has refused to give the Home Office accounts a clean bill of health because almost one third of the £94 million spent keeping prisoners in police cells during 1991-2 could not be properly accounted for.

The audit report also criticised the Home Office for failing to demand adequate proof that the money had been spent, and for not checking claims sufficiently before payment. All three issues are likely to be high on the agenda when the public accounts committee cross-examines Sir Clive Whitmore. permanent secretary at the

Home Office in March. High cost police authorities insist, however, that they are ill-equipped to cope with the demands placed on them, and that the charges submitted to the Home Office accurately reflect the costs of holding prisoners.

Dyfed-Powys, for example, says that four officers had been rostered to oversee the arrival of four prisoners. In the event only one turned up. and the other three officers, all of whom were on overtime, could not be stood down at the last minute Moreover, rural police

forces are rarely equipped with adequate custodial facilities and special arrangements have to be made. Dyfed-Powys police said: "In these circumstances, close

supervision is a constant requirement, and we cannot permit normal policing levels to be compromised." Conse quently, extra staff are rostered, and the police authority has no inhibitions about passing on the full cost. No evidence was produced by the National Audit Office

to indicate that such claims had been inflated. What angered the auditors, however, was the Home Office's failure to question police authority expenses more rigorously. "Despite wide variations in costs charged by different police authorities, the National Audit Office examination did not disclose a single case where a claim was adusted in respect of manpower, food, medical or transport costs," the report said. "Even where much higher than average costs were challenged, the explanations given by police forces were

invariably accepted and the

claim met in full," it added.

Christmas without the princes

Continued from page 1 Queen Mother, the Prince of Wales, Prince William and Prince Harry, the Duke of York, Prince Edward, the Princess Royal, her husband Commander Tim Laurence and her children Peter and Zara, Princess Margaret and her children, Viscount Linley and Lady Sarah Arm-

strong-Jones.

Although the princess was understood not to be planning to stay at Sandringham at any time, it is possible that she will visit the royal home. in Norfolk, to pick up the princes so that they can spend time at Althorp, or to drop them off.

The Duchess of York is thought not to have received a formal invitation to spend Christmas at Sandringham House. Her separation from the duke is on a less formal basis than that of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and she has completely given up formal royal engagements since the summer.

The monarchy has be-

come unduly focused upon the personalities of the royal family. John Habgood, the Archbishop of York, claims in The Times today. The Crown should be a constitutional safeguard against the accumulation of excessive power elsewhere in the realm, he says...... Page 12

Widow, 99, dies after attack at rest home

By LIN JENKINS

A WOMAN aged 99 died in hospital yesterday after being attacked by an intruder as she lay in her bed in a council-run home. As police began a murder enquiry, the woman's daughter appealed to anyone with information to come forward.

Sarah Burke, who was two weeks away from her 100th birthday, died without regaining consciousness after being attacked at The Green residential home in Redruth, Cornwall, on Sunday. She was hit in the face, fracturing her jaw and cheekbone.

Police believe that the intruder was a burglar, although nothing was stolen. Initial forensic examination suggested that the killer left the ground-floor room through a

Mrs Burke's daughter, Do-reen Leverton, said: "My mother was a very gentle person but she was in a terrible state when I went to see her in hospital. She could not defend herself and it will take a long time for me to get over this. "You always expect a parent

to die sometime, but not like this. It was a horrendous attack on a little old lady in her bed and the terrible thing is that whoever did it could strike

"We are absolutely devastated. Someone has not only killed an old lady of almost 100 but they have also killed

an old lady with the mind of a

Hawke, near Redruth, appealed for anyone who knew the murderer to come forward. "Someone out there must know something. If they saw anyone in the area or running away from the home. or they know someone with bloodstained clothing, they should tell the police immediately. The person who did this must be caught and as soon as possible. If you had seen her in hospital as I did you would not believe how terrible the injuries were that she suffered."

Mrs Leverton, 63, of Mount

Mrs Burke was a former mill worker who had been living at the home, run by the county council, since February.

Det Chief Supt David Hodson, head of Devon and Cornwall CID. said: "It could have been a burglary that went wrong, but it was still a vicious attack. Blood was spattered all over the room and it is likely the person responsible will have blood on their clothing, so I appeal to anyone who has seen another person with blood on their clothes to come forward.

"The public response has been good so far but I would appeal to people to take time out from preparing for Christ-mas and consider the enormity of this crime and help us in any way they can."

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Boy dies with friend he tried to save on frozen pond

By Geoff King

TWO schoolboys died yesterday after falling through ice on a frozen pond. Four firemen were being treated in hospital for hypothermia last night after trying to rescue the boys, thought to have been aged 14 and 15.

Han Elen

One of the boys was thought to have died after going on to the ice to try to rescue his friend. A third raised the alarm after seeing his two companions disappear into the freezing water near a housing estate in Chesterfield,

The first firemen on the scene spotted one of the boys under the ice and struggled to reach him. John Cooke and Andrew Scarffe plunged into the ice but were forced out by the cold. Phil Lester and Paul Burr constructed a makeshift dinghy from firefighting equipment and made a second unsuccessful attempt to

covered the boys' bodies after they had been in the pond at Holme Brooke Valley for an hour and a half. Efforts were made to revive them at the scene, but they were certified dead at hospital in Chesterfield. The four firemen were said to be in a satisfactory

Divisional Officer Michael Ball, of Derbyshire fire service, described the efforts of men as "nothing short of heroic". He said: "One of the boys was still visible when the crews arrived. Two firefighters went into the water and made their way through the ice, breaking it on their way, to get to him. They were not successful, mainly because of the intense cold.

They withdrew, then two other firefighters made their way across the water in a makeshift dinghy made out of a water dam - something like

a large paddling pool. They managed to get to the site where the lads were last seen and search under the ice but there was no sign." Another officer borrowed an inflatable dinghy from a local shop and the firemen searched again. but without success.

Mr Ball said that the whole lake had been frozen except for a hole in the middle.
"What probably happened was that one lad went on to the ice and fell through. The other then tried to reach him and also fell in. The third went to

fetch help."

A friend of the boys, who said he saw what happened, said one had disappeared under the water while the other managed to keep his head above. A passer-by had waded in up to his chest and thrown a life buoy towards the boys but had to turn back when he got into difficulties.

The pond, 100 yards wide and about 20ft deep, is on a former opencast mining site being converted into a park by Chesterfield Borough Council It borders the Holme Hall estate and is a popular play area for children.

Bill Flanagan, leader of the council, said that park rangers had turned several children away from frozen stretches of water yesterday. He added: "We erected warning notices as soon as the ice formed on Monday, telling people to keep off. Our safety precau-tions followed guidelines laid down for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, including provision of lifebelts. We strongly urge parents to impress on their children the importance of staying away from frozen ponds and lakes,"

Details of the dead boys were not being released until relatives had been told.



Christmas contrast: Natasha Mihaljcic, 10. will spend her first traditional English Christmas in a Surrey village after being smuggled out of Sarajevo by the ITN reporter Michael Nicholson in July. Mr Nicholson, right, and his wife Diana, who live in Grayswood, Surrey, are investigating the possibility of adopt-

ing the girl, although it is illegal to adopt a child over the age of five under Bosnian law. "I've met her aunt and uncle and we will advertise in Bosnia and Croatia for her mother to come forward - if she's still alive," Mr Nicholson said. He added that Natasha might wish to return to Sarajevo. The girl spent last Christ-

mas with 200 other children in an orphanage, where her single present was a toy deer. "It's going to be very different for her this year." Mr Nicholson said. "She's incredibly excited. Every night before she goes to bed she dives under the Christmas tree to see if any more presents have arrived for her." Like most children,

Natasha has been delightedly opening the windows of her first Advent calendar, has taken part in the school nativity play and even seen a panto-mime, Aladdin. On Christmas day, after opening her presents in front of church with the Nicholsons and their two sons. Tom, 20, and William, 19.

CLIPISTMAS WITH .

The Times will be the only quality national newspaper on sale on Boxing day — and with four sections it will offer a feast of good reading as well as a host of tips on how to survive the rest of the Christmas season.

the Christmas season.

The Saturday Review assesses 1992 and selects the images that capture the spirit of an annus horribilis. Jonathan Meades sets a quiz for foodies, Melinda Wittstock sees ominous signals from the new ITV, and Weekend reports on the plight of Bosnia.

Whether it is how to keep the children enter-

keep the children entertained, cures for hangovers, what to do with the leftovers, records of the year or where to find the sales, Weekend has the answers, as well as a game of political snakes



and ladders and a special offer of a £1,932 saving on transatlantic

With all this, plus Si-mon Jenkins, Clement Freud and the best team of columnists in Saturday journalism, The Times will be essential reading. Order your copy from your newsagent.

TOMORROW

An eight-page section with full television and radio listings for three days and our critics' choices of the best films and music will be published with The Times tomorrow.

There is also a new short story by Barry Unsworth joint winner of the 1992 Booker Prize, as well as a jumbo crossword.



Drink-drive message fails to | Experts at odds on reach 1 in every 12 tested

By Richard Ford, home correspondent

SENIOR police officers last night expressed disappointment as the first returns from the pre-Christmas drink-drive purge showed almost one in twelve motorists breathalysed was over the limit. The ratio was the same as last year.

Police forces in England

and Wales carried out 13 per cent fewer tests this year because officers were involved in countering the IRA's mainland bombing campaign.
Figures released by the

1,367 positive tests out of 17,528 motorists breathalysed between 6am on December 19 and 6am yesterday. Walter Girven, chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers' traffic committee, said: "This is disappointing as police ad-ministered 13 per cent fewer breath tests than the comparable period last year, not least because of the security duties

in the run-up to Christmas." He said more work needed to be done by the government, police showed that there were courts and police to deal with

hard-core drink drivers. The association believed that drivers caught for the second or third time with high levels of alcohol should be brought before a court as early as possible. If magistrates granted bail, they should insist that the motorist did not drive until the case was over.

The statistics from all 43 forces in England and Wales show that the number of motorists testing positively remains at almost 8 per cent, the same as last year. The total breath tests carried out was .528. against 20.245 in 1991 and 27,758 in 1990. The tests gave positive results for 1,367, compared with 1,686 last year. Mr Girven added that the only encourag-

ing figure was a reduction of 10 per cent in injury accidents.

The campaign produced mixed reports from forces across the country. Police in Hertfordshire breathalysed 174 motorists, with 11.5 per cent found over the limit. A force spokesman said: "It is still the case that there are a number of people ignoring all

the advice they are given about drinking and driving. Last night, the Campaign Against Drink-Driving called for random breath tests. Harry Cape, a spokesman for the group, said the figures would drop sharply if police were able to test motorists at will. "At the moment, motorists are

prepared to take a chance." The government's £1.3 mil-lion Christmas drink-drive campaign was launched earlier this month with a television commercial so hard hitting that it could not be screened

before 9pm. There are about 95,000 drink-drive convictions each year in England and Wales. Deaths caused by drink-driving have fallen from about 1,500 a year in the early 1980s to 700 in 1991.

motorway madness

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A CHANGE of public attitude to driving in fog was called for yesterday by the Automobile Association to combat "the killing season" on Britain's

Andrew Howard, head of

road safety at the AA, said: "In the same way that we have educated people not to give a driver an extra drink or any drink at all, we should educate society not to put pressure on him to be on time to meet an appointment when it is foggy. Drivers are put under pressure. That is evident from the fact that multiple pile-ups generally occur on weekday mornings. There is a link between that time of day in the week and the killing

But as fog and frost threatened to persist today, Ivan Brown, assistant director of the Medical Research Council's applied psychology unit at Cambridge, described "motorway madness" as a genuine problem resulting from fog distorting a driver's perception of speed and risk.

The perception of speed is

ping distance. The bad weather on Mon-day led to the busiest day on record for the AA breakdown service, with 7,429 calls. Up to 20 vehicles were involved in a multiple pile-up

usually a subconscious pro-

cess based on visual clues

from the roadside, and with-

out those clues the driver

might think he was not driv-

ing fast enough. Professor Brown said: "People are not

good at sensing how danger-

ous it is to drive at the speed

they do in fog. They ignore

warnings because they feel

they are in control. They rely

on their senses to judge a safe

speed but their senses are

unreliable in fog."

Appeals to "watch your speed" were dangerous, he

said, because the time taken

to check a speedometer can

eliminate a driver's safe stop-

that injured six people on the M6 in Cheshire yesterday only hours after police warned motorists to stay at home because of freezing fog.

Leading article, page 13

Prolific screenwriter: Lord Willis in 1963

Creator of Dixon dies aged 78

By Alison Roberts ARTS REPORTER

LORD Ted Willis, the writer who created the archetypal British bobby. Dixon of Dock Green, died suddenly yesterday. Lord Willis, aged 78, collapsed from a heart attack at his home in Chislehurst, Kent, after collecting his morning newpapers.

Listed by the Guiness Book of Records as the most prolific writer for television, he wrote 34 stage plays and 39 feature films, including the awardwinning Woman in a Dressing Gown.

Dixon of Dock Green ran for 21 years on the BBC and was a gentle precursor of later crime programmes. Lord Willis was working on a new series of his most loved creation when he died.

Born in Tottenham. north London, Lord Willis was the fourth of five children in a working class family. He left school at 14. beginning a 50-year writing career after military service during the war. He was known as a pioneer of the fifties-style kitchen-sink drama, but refused to be classed as an "angry young man". In 1963, he was elevated to the peerage as Lord Willis of Chislehurst A life-long socialist, he became an active member of the House of Lords on the Labour benches.

The crime writer H. R. F. Kearing paid trib-ute yesterday. Warmth. compassion, responsibility: these are the words that spring to mind when one thinks of Ted Willis ... A man to miss."

Private eye who stole letters fined

By A Staff Reporter

A PRIVATE detective who stole bags of refuse from outside the house of the managing editor of The Sunday Times was yesterday found guilty of theft.

John Reilly, 47, of Twickenham, west London, was looking for letters addressed to Roger Eglin and sold them to another private detective earlier this year, Isleworth Crown Court was told. Reilly was fined £150 with £50 costs.

Mr Eglin, an aviation spe-cialist, had told the court that he believed the theft was part of an industrial espionage campaign being waged by British Airways against its said the only issue for the jury

permission. Sentencing Reilly, he said:

Force

Surrey

rival Virgin Atlantic Airways. However, Judge Marder to decide was whether Reilly knew he was doing wrong in taking the refuse without

You are in no way the prime mover in what happened that

Aftwerwards, Reilly said that he had been left to "carry the can" in a case which had wider implications, but he

would not comment further.

Total breath tests in first period of Christ Total positive tests in brackets

Avon & Somersel Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire Cheshire City of London Cleveland Derbyshire
Devon & Com
Dorset
Durham
Dyled-Powys
Essex
Gloucester
Graster Mand Gwent Hampshire Hertfordshire Humberside Lincolnshire Northermotorshire Northermotorshire North Wales North Yorkshire North Yorkshire North Yorkshire South Yorkshire Staffordshire Suffok

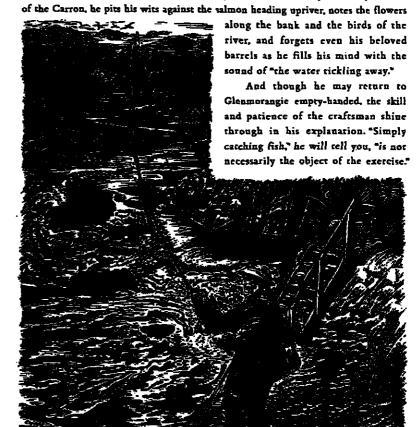
20,245 (1,886)

17,528 (1,367)

SINGLE HIGHLAND MALT SCOTCH WHISEY.

JOHNNY URQUHART. Head Cooper.

AVING TOILED ALL WEEK - and sometimes all weekend - upon the oaken casks which impart the buttery translucence and flowery nose to the malt, our Head Cooper heads for the river on a Priday afternoon. Here, by the rushy reaches



HANDCRAFTED by the SIXTEEN MEN of TAIN.

Sindy's facelift ends battle of the dolls

All figures for period 6am 19/12 to 6am 22/12

By KATE ALDERSON

THE grown-up world of plas-tic surgery and breast reshap-ing at last reached Toytown yesterday when Sindy agreed to have a facelift to make her look less like Barbie.

Hasbro Industries, the British maker of Sindy, has agreed to change the way she looks after Mattel threatened a multi-million dollar legal action because, they said, Sindy had been remodelled on their doll, Barbie.

Mattel believed Barbie's glitzy lifestyle of fast cars. male dolls and short skirts appealed more to children than the traditional Sindy who was more interested in horses and perhaps less in

The market at stake is huge. Sindy has annual sales worth £7 million, while Barbie's may be worth \$1 billion this year. In 33 years, 600 million Barbie dolls have been sold around the world. The action could have re-

sulted in Sindy dolls being

taken off the shelves. In

distributor had his stock seized after a French court decided Sindy had violated the Barbie copyright.
The legal wrangle, which was due to be heard at the High Court in London next

month, began when Sindy

suddenly lost her puppy fai, her breasts swelled and her

face was resculpted. Mattel

said Hasbro was in breach of

France earlier this year, a toy



Sindy, left, and her alleged role model, Barbie

copyright because Sindy had changed her looks and resembled Barbie. However, a statement is-

sued on behalf of the two companies yesterday annonneed agreement. "Hasbro has remodelled the head of Sindy in a way which Mattel and Hashro have agreed is acceptable. As a result, Mattel has agreed to drop all out-standing lawsuits relating to

Barbie was born in 1959 and two years later her boyfriend Ken came along. Five

Sindy and Barbie around the

million wedding dresses have been sold although there is no evidence of a marriage. According to Mattel, Barbie has more shoes than Imelda Marcos, I billion; more outfits than any model, 120 a year at the last count; more image changes than Madonna, 500 so far and

more facelifts than most Hol-

lywood stars. Early this year Barbie was censored by the American Association of University Women because she kent saying "maths class is tough."
Mattel agreed to change
Barbie's lines and now she reveals ambitions such as:

"I'm studying to be doctor."

The doll is sold in 100 countries and along the way Barbie has acquired 66 additional family, friends and pets. The latest creation, Totally Hair Barbie, with locks flowing to her shoes, is expected to pull in \$100 million.

Files disclose UK's role in Cuban crisis

By Sheila Gunn, political correspondent

DOCUMENTS detailing the Macmillan government's secret offer to help the United States to overthrow Fidel Castro's communist regime in Cuba 30 years ago will be released today by an organisation campaigning for freedom of information.

The papers on the 1962 Cuban missile crisis and the Profumo affair are readily available in the United States, although they remain locked away in British archives.

They disclose secret negotiations between the two governments over the possible use of a British base for launching airstrikes against Cuba and the hunt by the Federal Bu-reau of Investigation for American citizens who could be drawn into the Profumo

The Campaign for Freedom of Information is using papers released in America to under-line the need for "right to know" legislation in Britain. It argues that such documents give the American people an insight, denied in Britain, into

The Cuba papers show that American officials ap-

proached the British government in 1961 for permission to use Mayaguana island airfield in the Bahamas if necessary as a base for launching tactical air strikes against Castro. The British government consented on condition that its role was kept secret.

After Castro came to power in January 1959, the US government drew up military strategies for invading Cuba and overthrowing the regime. In April 1961, a US-backed invasion force was forced to surrender to Castro's troops when attempting to land at the Bay of Pigs. The British government was then ap-proached, via David Bruce, who was US ambassador in London, for permission to use Mayaguana. Mr Bruce was asked to gauge reaction and to find out what the British

might want in return. After Soviet nuclear missiles were stationed in Cuba, a US file shows that Britain agreed on condition that nothing was put in writing and facilities at Mayaguana were not put to active use without prior agreement

including FBI files on investigations into American citizens linked to the Profumo affair and records of negotiations in the mid-1970s over granting Concorde landing rights in New York and Washington. Some documents will be

declassified in Britain's public records office on January 1 under the 30-year rule. Far greater public access, similar to the US, would be given under the "right to know" bill, introduced by Mark Fisher, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent Central, which will be debated in the Commons on February 19. Maurice Frankel, the cam-

paign's director, commented: The annual opening of the 30-year-old files in the public record office only emphasises how long we have to wait for information which could safe ly have been released a decade earlier. The US Freedom of Information Act is still a major source of information about British history, even about our safety. We still have to rely on the openness of other governments to reveal what our own government keeps secret."



The player: Tristan Garel-Jones loved political game

Minister's resignation: Major loses a shrewd and trusted adviser

The arch-conspirator who tired of keeping a secret

By Peter Riddell, political editor

tempt for many of them.

many on the right of advanc-ing the careers of close friends

in the Blue Chip dining group, such as Chris Patten. William Waldegrave and Mr Major: This suspicion was

always exaggerated.

Mr Garel-Jones saw as early

as 1988 that Mr Major rather

than Mr Patten was the most likely member of his genera-

tion to become Tory leader

because he appealed not only to the traditional centre but

also to some of the non-Oxbridge, non-public school

Thatcherites of a similar social

background. When the contest

came, he backed Douglas Hurd, his department head,

SO CONSPIRATORIAL is Tristan Garel-Jones's reputation that last night's news that he will leave the government next year prompted immediate comparisons with Talleyrand's comment on the death of an early 19th century ambassador. "What does he mean by that?"
In Mr Garel-Jones's case,

the story for once appears to be straightforward. He decided a couple of years ago that he wanted to step down as a minister, though not as an MP, to pursue other interests. In the summer of 1991; he told John Major, who persuaded him to stay on as Foreign Office minister to see through the British presidency of the European Community and the Maastricht bill.

The timing is nonetheless odd. Although the presidency will be over on December 31, the bill faces a lengthy committee stage. But Mr Garel-Jones was fed up with beging his secret.

His departure has a signifi-cance way beyond his position

though relations with Mr as a middle-ranking minister. Major remained warm. During more than eight years Since he moved to the in the whips' office and two Foreign Office in July 1990, and a half in the Foreign Office, he has had influence in 10 Downing Street. He has Mr Garel-Jones has been

tricht negotiations. His probecome a bogeyman for the anti-EC right, in part because EC stance is one of the few subjects on which he has of his barely disguised conpublicly known views, and has earned him enemies. Otherwise, he has been the operator That has partly been a tribute to his skills as a behindwho loves the political game the scenes fixer. He foresaw for its own sake.

But for all his assiduity. the trouble that Baroness Thatcher was in after Sir Anthony Meyer's trial run disguised behind a casual against her in December 1989, but had left the whips' office three months before the November 1990 battle. As a whip he was suspected by

closely involved in the Maas-

facade, he has never regarded politics as the central part of his life. He always goes to Spain during parliamentary recessess, as he did again yesterday. His family has a language school in Madrid and his wife is Spanish. He wants to resume his serious interest in books and modern Spanish painting, and his business interests in Spain.

Mr Garel-Jones said yester-day that he never regarded himself as a long-distance runner in politics. His departure underlines the impact on ministers of one party being in office for a long time and, after the departure of Mr Patten. removes another of the prime minister's shrewdest and most

Garel-Jones quits, page 1

Daily grind of life at the top breaks all but strongest

Ministerial life with its exhausting work schedule and scant social life is far removed from its glamorous image, writes Sir Robert Rhodes James



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t is one of the most persistent myths, much favoured by even the best informed political commentators, that politicians crave office and, if they achieve it, cling to it tenaciously, come

The reality is that there are many who do not seek it at all. and others who find the

reality is quite different to what they had expected. The unceasing delivery of boxes packed with papers that have to be read; the endless meetings and committees that must be attended, in Whitehall and Westminster, a long list of unadvertised engagements, lunches and dinners, the very dubious joys of sometimes daily, the hostile opinions of opponents (not only to be found on the official Opposition benches) and the press; the entirely false respite of the weekend, when angry constituents need to be mollified: the calls for television and radio interviews at ridiculous hours, and the chief whip commanding presence for some obstreperous backbench party committee and crucial votes at the end of a

long, long day. Backbenchers with a small government majority do not enjoy much social life, for ministers and their families it becomes a distant memory. To all this has been added, for several ministers, the almost intolerable physical and mental demands of Europe, hurtling out to airports, staying in what seem identical hotel bedrooms, regardless of the location, mastering hurried briefs, listening to simultaneous translation of various versions on the perfide Albion variety, fighting their corner, and then back to the airport and Westminster for another vote on something or other.

And then there are the proliferation of Commons select committees, the invention of Lord St John of Fawsley in 1979 which may be considered an Act of Providence by ambitious backbenchers and the Opposition, but an Instrument of the Devil by ministers and officials. One's views on the importance of effective and persistent parliamentary scrutiny of the executive change mightily when the eager backbencher becomes the weary minister on the receiving end of what he now considers to be a singly ill informed and impertinent questioning by a bunch of publicity crazed, self impor-tant, and unfriendly nincom-

poops.

This is not a caricature of the average ministerial life. The wonder is not that many ministers, and their spouses. decide that it is an abjectly illpaid and ill-rewarded existence in all other respects as

well and get out while their health and sanity are in reasonably good shape, but that there are others who actually thrive on it.

There is something in the

old Whitehall view that a Happy Minister is a Good Minister and that an Unhappy one is not. As The Battle of the Memoirs develops, it is now clear to a wider public that serving under Mrs Thatcher was to most of her ministers a kind of living hell. The fascination of Nigel Lawson's memoirs in particular is how admiration and affection degenerated gradually into a wary modus vivendi, ended by something approaching hatred. He became terminally fed up and, distillusioned and betrayed, got out. Her abominable personal treatment of Sir Geoffrey Howe was to rebound spectacularly when he also,

had had enough.
But the voluntary departures under Thatcher were largely for personal reasons that involved her personality and methods.

hen John Major took over, every-thing characteristics thing changed magically. "For the first time" one minister told me a week after Mr Major took over, "I am actually enjoying being a min-ister." Unfortunately, the pressures of the job do not diminish, however agreeable the personality of the prime minister.

When Anthony Eden became foreign secretary for the third time in 1951 he found that while his power had fallen as Britain's had, the Foreign Office workload was greater than ever before. He then realised why it bad broken Ernest Bevin's health and Herbert Morrison's ambitions of becoming prime minister. It did nothing for Eden's health either.

In recent times, I have never seen anyone age so rapidly in office as poor Brynmor John, to the point that I was amazed he was actually younger than me. His early death, which I lamented much, owed much to his torrid period as a minister. But he was by no means the only casualty.

I do not know the reasons that prompted John Nott and others and recently George Walden, Nigel Forman, and now Tristan Garel-Jones to decide that there are more important things in life than being an exhaustive Aunt Saily, but I can well understand why, in the American phrase, they wanted out.

If it is any consolation to them there have been prime ministers who came to the same conclusion. Sir Robert Rhodes James is the former Conservative MP



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Sacked trust manager had quit twice over allegations

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE manager of a hospital trust sacked for alleged sexual harassment had twice resigned from other hospitals while under investigation for alleged misdemeanours.

... The chequered career of Kieron Stanley, dismissed from his post as manager of St Lawrence's hospital for the mentally handicapped in Croydon, south London, on December 11, has raised questions about the lack of controls on hospital trusts.

Allegations about Mr Stanley had been known to the health department since 1987 but his career continued to thrive. South West Thames regional health authority said that it was poweriess to intervene since Št Lawrence's was an independent trust.

Malcolm Wicks, Labour MP for Croydon North West, tabled a motion in the Commons demanding an investigation into the trust by Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, "given the evidence of clear nepotism, the failure of the trust's board to sale-guard staff and patients interests, an alleged climate of fear, and the case of sexual

Mr Stanley, 42, was sacked 12 days ago after he failed to attend a disciplinary hearing into allegations that he "put pressure on a female member of staff", according to the man who has shepherded his career for the past ten years. He is for the past ten years. He is Ian Semple, chief executive of the Life Care Trust, which runs services for the mentally handicapped in Croydon. Mr Stanley, a long-time friend, had "created a situation which was unacceptable to me", Mr Semple said, but he would not

detail the allegations. Mr Semple first employed Mr Stanley in the early 1980s as director of nursing services at Warlingham Park psychiatric hospital, Croydon, Mr Stanley was suspended from that job in April 1986 for reasons that have never been made public but Mr Semple

similar post at a hospital in north Staffordshire, described as "glowing" by Clare Howell, the present chief executive of the district health authority. In 1987, after Mr Stanley

had changed jobs, north Staffordshire learnt that he had been under suspension in Croydon and he resigned.

The authority complained to Croydon that his reference had not mentioned his suspension and accused Mr Semple of "gross professional misconduct". Ms Howell said: "If it had just been a case of inadequate references it would have blown over but Mr Stanley caused us a great deal of anguish. The authority was absolutely incensed by the actions of Mr Semple."

When Mr Semple was con-tacted at his office at St Lawrence's by The Times, he said that a reference should not mention unproven allegations. "If a case hasn't been proved you have to be very careful what you say or you can get nailed for it."

An enquiry set up by Croy-don health authority concluded, however, that Mr Semple should have told north Staffordshire that Mr Stanley was under investigation, although the omission did not amount to professional misconduct.

Last year, Mr Semple again hired Mr Stanley, who had not worked in the National Health Service in the interim. this time as manager of St Lawrence's. "I took him on based on my knowledge of him because I thought he was one of my best managers," Mr Semple said. "I found him guilty of sexual harassment but in terms of management of the care of clients he was exactly what the organisation wanted." He said the trust board had investigated the

appointment and approved it. Asked if it were true that he gave jobs to his friends, Mr Semple said: "It is not just a case of Ian Semple saying all these people can have these jobs. If you don't make the



Glorious history: John Humphreys in front of the stage at the Adelina Patti Theatre, where Victorian high society gathered

Castle launches appeal to save Victorian diva's legacy

By TIM JONES

OPERA fans around the world are being asked to raise £1.5 million for renovations to a castle once owned by a flamboyant Victorian diva.

Adelina Patti, whose voice financed an extravagant life-style, fell in love with Craig-ynos after she left her first husband, the Marquis de Caux, an equerry to Napoleon 111. In the wilds of Wales, near Abercraf in Powys, she set up home with Ernesto Nicolini, an Italian opera singer, and spent much of her fortune transforming the building into a Gothic and

Her tiny frame produced the purest coloratura voice and she exploited her talent ruthlessly to demand un-heard-of fees of £1,000 a performance. Verdi thought she had no equal and said she was his first, second and third favourite prima donna. The consortium owning the castle hopes that its greatest days of

Italianate extravaganza.

Victorian opera can be recreated in a musical centre to rival Glyndebourne. When Patti was not enter-

taining high society, includ-ing the Prince of Wales, she would sometimes instruct the staff to dress up, order her butler to break open the champagne, and dance and sing before them. They paid nothing to hear her perform. Other extravagances in-

duded building her own railway station to give better access to Craig-y-nos — it means Rock of the Night and she employed one maid solely to look after her pet dogs. But her greatest innovation was creation of the Adelina Patti Theatre, which is now restored and used to stage opera and other events.

After Nicolini died in 1895, the Madrid-born diva married Baron Cederstrom and she lived in the castle until her death in 1919.

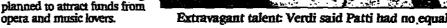
spent £500,000 renovating it but the upper floors and fabric with decay. John Humphreys, one of the directors, said the castle was paying its way as an arts and functions centre, but margins were too tight to

complete renovation.

The local businessmen bought the estate six years ago when it was feared it might be turned into an hotel. Mr Humphreys said: "We are all fans of Madame Patti and do not take income from the project but we need more help.
"I dread to think what

would happen if we were faced with a major problem. If the remaining rooms go into decay, it will have a terrible effect on Craig y-nos. This is a magnificent building and our dream is to make it a centre to rival Glyndebourne." A share scheme is being

pera and music lovers.



Woman in baby con is sentenced A woman aged 50 who tricked her lover out of £3,500 by pretending she had given birth to his son was given a suspended prison sentence

MENS IN 1885

yesterday.

Margaret Judges, who used a friend's baby girl to fool Philip Phillips, a maths lecturer aged 46, for four years, was sentenced to 18 months in jail, suspended for two years at Cheimsford Crown Court.

Judges, a taxi firm control-ler, of Maldon, Essex had denied obtaining money by deception between 1987 and 1991. She told Mr Phillips that the baby was a boy and would be named after him.

Racing libel

Satellite Information Services. a racing information organisation, accepted "substantial" libel damages in the High Court over a Channel 4 programme, Against the Odds, which claimed it was involved in a conspiracy with bookmakers to manipulate starting

Fire deaths

A year-old baby boy died in a house fire in Highbury; north London. The parents of Justin Bennett and their two other children managed to escape. In Islington, also north London, police were treating a flat fire in which a middleaged man died as suspicious.

Police enquiry

The chief constable of Not-tingham has ordered an enquiry after three police officers were seen in a nightclub dressed as Ku Klux Klan members. The men are alleged to have visited the club after attending a fancy dress

Body named

A mummified body, found a week ago in a hotel cellar, was named at a Nottingham inquest as Linda Killeen, a mother-of-two. She went miss-ing from her lodgings in the city three years ago.

Spanish main

The Spanish spent £2.3 million this year on tourism advertising in the UK, more than highest spender was Australia.

The way it isn't



dear old American friends, Al and Sally du Lally. In this final extract from their Christmas roundrobin, they tell of their own good fortune over the past

year:
"Hi, y'all! It's been another super year in our marriage — 32 years now. would you believe, and it don't seem a day! To celebrate our anniversary at the beginning of the year, I gave Al six weeks at a macrobiotic health farm and he gave me two months at Betty Ford's lovely mansion, with 24hour supervision and free medication up to the first

ten gallons.
"We both came back beautifully refreshed, and all set for a swell year! Al brought back his Personal Fitness Trainer, a lovely young-at-heart lady named Cindy with beautiful dyed hair, a great selection of cyclashes and a pretty mauve swimsuit that goes so beautifully with her varicose veins.

"She says she aims to knock pounds a week off Al (how much would that be in dollars, I wonder?) and guarantees that I'll hardly be able to see him when she's finished with

"As hick would have it at Betty Ford's mansion I met a lovely new friend called Larry. Larry swears by the place. He loves it so much he's been back eight times in two years. Ten months on, Larry and Cindy have become old family friends, and they now have adjoining rooms in our lovely home, often staying up all night ductting on old Grateful Dead numbers, would you believe!
"Meanwhile, Al and I

have been getting along better than ever, and know he'd wish me to pass on his season's greetings from his beautiful new one-room condominium in Alaska ... Cheers.

Charity for homeless offers shelter in the provinces

BY NICHOLAS WATT

THOUSANDS of homeless people throughout Britain will swap their damp makeshift beds today for the comfort of a Christmas refuge where they will be fed, given medical treatment where necessary and entertained.

But the respite will be brief and by next Wednesday the rough sleepers, who range from 16-year-olds to pensioners, will return to their itiner-

A disused warehouse in London, which has been taken over by Crisis, the charity for the homeless, opens in London today to shelter up to 2,000 over the holiday. For the first time this year, Crisis will also be opening centres in five regional towns to help the growing number of bomeless outside London, who now account for 60 per cent of

Britain's total.

Adam Woolf, director of Crisis, said yesterday. The government has ignored the plight of the regional home-less. We have found that every month 7.500 people are being turned away from shelters outside London. The govern-ment has responded so badly to this problem because people sleeping rough in mundane towns is not the same as people bedding down in a

smart part of London." Bristol has the largest concentration of single homeless people outside London, with as many as 800 people sleeping rough every night.
Maggie Whinle, of the city's
Caring at Christmas charity.

said yesterday that she was particularly worried by the large numbers of youngsters on the streets. "The govern-ment says that children under 18 should be protected. But from our experience in Bristol, this is just not the case," Ms Whittle said.

Anne Marie, a single woman of 19 who has been homeless since she lost a council flat two years ago, spends a couple of nights a week at the city's shelter. She is typical of Bristol's young homeless. "I lived in care from the age of 13 until 1 was 17. when I got a council flat," she said. "But that didn't work out because I didn't have enough support. I've been on a waiting list for another flat for five months but nothing has come

Despite the shelter and food offered by the charity over Christmas, Anne Marie said it would do little to cheer her up. "Coming to the shelter at Christmas puts down your spirits. You'd much rather be with your family or in a place

of your own."
Sir George Young, the housing minister, defended the government's support for the single homeless, saying that young people had not been neglected. "If young people cannot get on a train-ing scheme they are still entitled to claim income support. In London, the young homeless have been helped

In an interview with The Times, Sir George said he



Rural homeless: a jobseeker on the street in Suffolk

would not change his policy of concentrating resources on London's homeless, leaving local authorities to cope in the regions. Over the past three years, the government has provided £96 million for London. Last year, £6.1 mil-lion was provided for regional voluntary organisations.

"I don't want local authorities to feel that if they do nothing the government will ride to their rescue. In the 1991 census there were 2,700 people sleeping rough in the country, with 1,300 in London and 1,400 in the regions. We decided to focus on London because the prob-

"Although the regional fig-ures are comparable with London, they are distributed across a far wider number of authorities. The problem in London is deeply rooted and people have been sleeping rough in Lincoln's Inn Fields since 1810."

But John Battle, Labour's housing spokesman, said yes-terday that the government had to focus on the regions. "I have been shocked by the number of homeless people outside London. Young home-less people who would have headed to London two years ago are now staying in their home towns because they realise there is no hope in the capital." York, for example, had a 70 per cent increase in homeless this year.

The government should change the law to make local authorities legally responsible for housing the single homeless, Mr Battle said. "There is a terrible shortage of affordable cheap housing and we would call on the government

to provide 'supportive' hous-ing," he said. But Sir George said that this year's Autumn Statement announced that the government would buy up to 20,000 homes to provide cheap housing."I am not persuaded to change the law on the single homeless) because local authorities must first provide housing for the elderly, the disabled and young families."

> Modern Tones, page 11 Bryan Appleyard, page 12 John Habgood, page 12



er out", she said.

dence destroyed should they

demand access. Already the

UN has recorded a sinister

imbalance in the ages of the

refugees who manage to leave

Bosnia. "There is a lack of

women of reproductive age.

just as there is men of draft age, especially among refu-gees who left after their

towns were occupied by the Serbs," said Ms Foa. Borislav Herak, a Serb, 21.

being held in a Sarajevo

prison on war crimes charges, has given a detailed account of how Serb fighters raped

young Bosnian women at a

prison turned brothel camp.

'I raped the girls in the motel

[north of Sarajevo], shot them and hid their bodies" he said.

"I raped ten girls in their 20s and killed six of them." He said he was forced to rape the

women, under orders from

his superiors. Several female

survivors of the brothel camps have testified that

Serb fighters, some of whom

had been known to them as friends and neighbours, were

forced by their commanders to rape them.

organised mass rapes, alleg-edly sometimes by Serbs

brought in from outside,

serve a darker purpose: to

prevent local Serbs and Mus-

lims from ever being able to

live together again. Dr Miha-

met Sestic, a psychiatrist in Zenica said: These Serbs are

destroying the culture, the tradition and the houses of

the Muslims. And [by these rapes] they destroy relations between neighbours."

☐ Arnsterdam: Photographs

revealing atrocities caused by

nationalism past and present

went on show on yesterday in

the house here where Anne

Frank hid from occupying Nazi forces during the second

The Anne Frank Founda-

tion decided to put on the

exhibition after the atrocities

of the war in the Balkans

were reported. "We decided in the first half of this year,

especially after all the stories

about concentration camps

in Yugoslavia .. that this must be our topic for a new

exhibition," an organiser,

Jaap Tanga said.

world war.

Many Bosnians believe the

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By Roger Boyes, east europe correspondent

RAPE has become a systematic weapon of war in the Bosnian conflict and the rapists should be put before war crimes tribunals, according to a report by the World Council

of Churches (WCC). Women investigators from the WCC have just returned from two Croat refugee camps and have compared their evidence with that gathered by other groups, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

"We are now convinced that there is a policy of systematic rape - and that it is a weapon of war, not just a by-product." Brenda Fitzpatrick of the WCC said yesterday. Ms Fitzpatrick, a member of the

HUMAN RIGHTS

investigation team, acknowledged that rapes were being committed by all sides but said only the Serbs had made it a policy to rape and impregnate captive Muslim women.

Other international bodies, including the parliamentary assembly of the Western European Union (WEU), had been collecting credible reports of large-scale rape. The WEU report stated: "Women and girls are held in rape camps where each day they are humiliated and tortured repeatedly and . . . are even often killed."

The WEU also found evidence that male prisoners of war were being castrated.

The "rape camps" appear to be a sinister off-shoot of ethnic deansing. Many victims say they were told that they would be raped repeatedly until they became pregnant and could bear ethnic Serbian children.

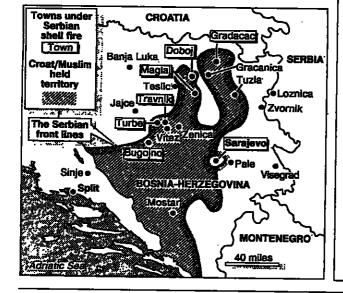
Once they were visibly preg nant they were left alone until the seventh month of pregnancy, when abortion would be impossible. "The Serbs have the clear aim," said Ms Fitzpatrick, quoting an interviewee, "of creating a generation of children of hate."

Both the WEU and the World Council of Churches agree that many thousands of women are involved. Among the raped refugees there was strong anger. Ms Fitzpatrick said, not only about the assault but about the "international voyeurism" which has sensa-tionalised the problem. Few organisations have offered psychiatric assistance to the women, testimony is only being gathered very sketchily and many victims believe that the rapes are not being treated seriously when they are reported to the authorities.

One priority is to collect evidence before it is covered up. Publicity is often selfdefeating, since as soon as the site of a rape camp is mentioned frequently in the press, it is moved. The International Red Cross has arrived at reported camps to find nothing but recently vacated

Chroniding atrocities has always been difficult in Bosnia, since the propaganda war is in full flush. Some refugees have tried to enhance their chances of finding asylum by exaggerating incidents. The rapes are, however, among verifiable war crimes because pregnancy cannot be simulated and few women have a motive for making up such a

> Major visit, page 1 Simon Jenkins, page 12 Letters, page 13



The hotel where no one wanted to stay

Bosnia's war mirrors the horrors of the Nazi's "joy division", writes Adam LeBor

SERB fighters came to Azra's flat in Visegrad in early June. She remembers the date clearly. She was raped and her sister Munira, 16, and their schoolfriend, 18, disappeared.

The Serbs were wearing camouflage uniforms with grey berets and a white cockade. They arrived at 11.30am and said we had to go to the police station to identify some classmates" said Azra, 17, now a refugee in Zenica, Bosnia.

The police station was just a few yards away but the destination was the hotel Vilina Vlas, a place of dread where Serbs took away local girls. Munira and the sisters' friend were sent off with two soldiers and Azra was left alone in a room at the hotel. Her interrogation began five minutes later.

"He locked the door and pushed the table in front." said Azra. "He asked me who had weapons among the Muslims. I said I didn't know because they had all been handed in. He said I was lying and he asked me who my father was.

Then he started to take off his clothes and ordered me to strip as well . . . and then later ... I did not want to strip," said Azra, crying as she told her story."But I took them off. I wouldn't give myself though and I defended myself so he wanted to beat me. He told me, It's your honour to be mine. You could have been thrown into the river Drina or a quarry.' I started to scream. Then he stood up and said he would get ten other guys to tear me apart so I could not hold out any longer and I

gave up."
At about 3pm, Azra said she heard a long scream. "A bit later a door was unlocked and I heard a soldier cursing. A girl was crying in the hallway and it was my sister."

The two have not seen each other since. Yet compared with many, Azra had a lucky escape. Her assailant allowed her home the next day and she left Visegrad in July without her sister but with the rest of her family.

Azra wanted the world to know what was happening in Bosnia but she was too frightened to give her real name or that of her sister, as she fears for her safety if she is still

Bosnian and Croatian human rights groups list more than a dozen sites which they describe as "brothel camps" where women of all ages have been held and repeatedly gang-raped by Serb fighters.



In survivors' testimonies the name of the Vilina Vlas appears again and again.

the Nazis had their "joy division" of women female concentration camp inmates and the Japanese ran "comfort camps" where Korean women were raped. Now the Bosnian war appears to have its own versions.

Rapes have been committed by Muslim, Croat and

Serb fighters during the con-flict, say human rights activists. But the Serbs are network of sites where women are imprisoned and suffer repeated multiple rapes. Survivors also claim that once the soldiers have finished with their female captives many of the women are killed. The revelations add to the list of atrocities of

in a war that daily plunges

new depths of degradation. Many rape survivors are now pregnant and it is only as more obvious that they begin to talk about their experiences.

Sylvana Foa, a spokeswoman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva, said: "We have credible and consistent reports of widespread and systematic rape." There were

Images of refugees in the former Yugoslavia mirror those of people in 1944 fleeing the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands. Pictures ilhistrating spreading nationalism in Germany, Belgium,

> side. (Reuter) Additional reporting by Alexandra Stiglmayer

Pentagon proposes *** missile rape and sexual abuse that independently bear each othattacks on Neither the Red Cross nor the UN has access to sites such as the Hotel Vilina Vlas. airfields: Relief workers fear that any women still being held there could be killed and the evi-

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON

AS THE Western powers wrangled yesterday about how to prevent violations of the "no-fly" zone over Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Pentagon disclosed that its plans for enforcing the flight ban included cruise missile attacks on Serb airfields.

Plans being refined by the Pentagon envisage combat air patrols by F14 Tomcat fighters and FAIS Hornet attack bombers. The patrols would be directed from the aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy. Planes equipped with early warning systems would be used to monitor Bosnian

airspace.

If the United Nations Security Council authorised the allies to enforce the flight ban, then sea and air-launched Tomahawk cruise missiles

WESTERN RETERVENTION

could be used to cripple Serbian-held air bases. Officials said that the missiles could be equipped with warheads that can drop a series of explosives along runways. The Pentagon believes that it would not be difficult to prevent Serbian aircraft from violating the ban, but acknowledges that it would need substantially more aircraft if the Serbs reacted with anti-aircraft fire.

The disclosure of some of the Pentagon plans are unlikely to calm British and French anxieties about Washington's determination to enforce the no-fly zone. While the Bush administration wants Western forces to be authorised to shoot down Serb planes that violate the ban and to bomb airfields, London and Paris opposed granting such broad powers to

A victory in the Serbian presidential election for Slobodan Milosevic, the incumbent Serb president, is almost certain to encourage Washington to speed up its efforts to secure a UN resolution authorising enforcement of the flight ban. The administration is against the British and French idea of giving the Serbs a month's grace before enforcement after a resolution is passed.

State Department office said yesterday attempts to secure a resolution had been slowed by pleas from Cyrus Vance, the special UN envoy. for more negotiations. Mr Vance has supported the British and French warnings that UN troops in Bosnia could be placed in jeopardy by the kind of action being considered by

the Bush administration.

Ireland, Hungary, Romania and France stand side by

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to honour his pledge to resign if, as now seemed likely, the federal parliament were controlled by Mr Milosevic's Socialist party in alliance with the extreme nationalists of the Serbian Radical party.

In Serbia's southern province of Kosovo yesterday, Zeljko Raznjatovic, a militia leader better known as Arkan, his nom de guerre, celebrated his election to the Serbian parliament. Arkan's men have been accused by the American State Department and human rights groups of committing numerous atrocities and mass executions in Croatia and Bosnia. More than 90 per cent of Kosovo's population is eth-nic Albanian but, heeding calls by their leaders, they boycotted the elections on

Sunday. Arkan said yesterday that he intended to make sure that Kosovo will no longer be a problem for Yugoslavia". He said that he wanted to see Vojislav Seselj, the Radical party leader, made minister of defence or put in charge of the police. Mr Seselj has called for the mass deportation of ethnic Albanians and other non-Serbs from Serbia.

☐ Bonn: Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, said yesterday that he would regret a victory by Mr Milosevic. "If that is to be, we will naturally be sorry further important means have been lost with which we had hoped to influence the events there." Herr

for the political isolation of Serbia, which the outside world accuses of being responsible for the war in Bosnia. It was an option, he said, but it would not be easy as the consequences will have to be carried by the people ... which on one side we are trying to avoid and on another is unavoidable". (Reuter)

Defiant Panic urges world to snub Milosevic FROM TIM JUDAH AND DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

MILAN Panic, the Yugoslav prime minister, yesterday demanded the total international isolation of Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, and called on him to resign. Mr Panic denied that he had been thrashed by Mr Milosevic in Sunday's Serbian elections, adding: "The Serbi-an people did not elect Milosevic ... he cheated, he should get out now."

The prime minister was speaking as Vuk Draskovic, a leader of Depos, Serbia's opposition coalition, claimed that the election had been 'rigged to the last detail". He said that, as far as Depos was concerned, Mr Panic was now the elected president of Serbia.

Mr Panic, a Serb-American businessman, vowing to continue fighting, said he had no intention of returning to his former home in California. He added that he hoped to be able to weld together and lead



a united opposition to carry on the struggle against Mr Milo-sevic "within the system". He predicted that opposi-

tion supporters would come into the streets to protest over the alleged election fraud but said: "I am not calling for an uprising. I am against unrest

The latest results show that Mr Milosevic was leading Mr Panic by 56 per cent to 35 per cent, but Mr Panic has asked the electoral commission to declare the results void and to call a new election. International election observers tend to agree that Sunday's poll was, in the words of one of them, "seriously flawed".

In an interview with The Times, Mr Panic said the official election results were

opposition figures showing that Mr Milosevic had won 49 per cent of the vote to his own 43 per cent - a result that, if it had been officially declared, would have required a run-off poll. The prime minister said he had been handicapped from the start because of Mr Milosevic's control of Serbian television, but he also blamed Western countries for his defeat. He accused Western poli-

"propaganda" and produced

promises to him to send computers for the elections and vital television broadcast-Mr Panic said he would now call for the total international isolation of the Serbian president, but stopped short of endorsing the call made by John Major and others for the closing of Serbia's frontiers

ticians of not honouring their

and the cutting of postal and telecommunications links. "I don't know who that would



Panic demanding that poll be declared void

help," he said. "The West should ignore Milosevic. No one should talk to him. No one should bring him messages. He should be totally

Mr Panic said he would like President Cosic of Yugoslavia to ask him to serve a second

term as prime minister, add-

Belgrade warned to change its ways

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

BRITAIN yesterday urged Serbia to make "rapid and radical changes" in policy as hardline Slobodan Milosevic looked certain of being re-elected as

The Foreign Office, in a statement, said that, although final results had not yet been announced, "we look to the Serbian leadership for rapid and radical changes in their policies to set the tone for our future relationship with them".

Serbian television, controlled by Mr Milosevic, has announced the victory of the incumbent president over challenger Milan Panic, the prime minister of rump Yugoslavia. The West blames Mr Milosevic for the conflict in former Yugoslavia, while Mr Panic, a moderate, has pledged to work for peace and the lifting of UN sanctions.

Yesterday France questioned the fairness of the presidential election, but said

that even if Mr Panic lost the vote his stance against civil war in Bosnia would carry weight. Daniel Bernard, the foreign ministry spokesman, said: "We must await the official results. But, even if the provisional results are confirmed, there is no doubt that the breakthrough achieved by Mr Panic constitutes an important new event."

Jacques Chirac, the French opposition leader, said yesterday that the European Community must take a tougher line against Serbia. "If his election is unfortunately confirmed, the time has come to warn Mr Milosevic that we will not remain, as we have sadly done for too long, powerless in the face of mounting danger and atrocities," he said in Grenoble. M Chirac, a former prime minister, added that the Community must "clearly tell Milosevic we will intervene with aircraft to destroy the vital centres of the

French politicians and intellectuals

yesterday petitioned President Mitterrand to launch an ultimatum against Belgrade to end Serbian attacks on Bosnia. In an open letter, they called on him to threaten military action, including "bombing" Serbian targets, unless Belgrade heeds the ultimatum.

Signatories included philosopher Bernard-Henri Lévy, Médecins sans Frontières president Rony Brauman, former environment minister Brice Lalonde, and leading members of parliament from the conservative opposition and the governing Socialist party.

Giuliano Amato, the Italian prime minister, said that Europe could not tolerate the violence and "ethnic cleansing" in former Yugoslavia. At his yearend news conference in Rome, he said: "I have fought and continue to fight so that without hypocrisy ... we can tell these (Yugoslav leaders that) states founded on ethnic purity offend the civilisation of their European neighbours."

Kinkel told German radio. He stopped short of calling

How to help a charity run a fast food delivery service. BEFORE DISASTER STEWES, 10 4 PERAMILENT RELIEP HAND, SO MONOY FAR SWEPLIES IS ALWAYS REACT SO CHARITIES GET IT STERVAT AWAY. SO AID IS BENT ALLHOURS, SO PLEASE HELP US. WE'RE 1ST A B AND WE'RE SEITARS UP THE FUND. GIVE AS LITTLE AS 22.50 AND NOVIL 1150 A FAMILY FOR A WEEK, OR PAY FOR BOISHORFES OF FENDERHORD FONDER AND ALLIFOR THE PRICE OF A SURGER AND CHAS TO MAKE A CREDIT CARD DONATION ANY TIME, ANY DAY, CALL 0272 226688 YOU CAN ALSO GIVE AT ANY BRADFORD AND BINGLEY OR MIDLAND BRANCH. OR SEND A CHEQUE OR POSTAL ORDER (PAYABLE TO 1ST AID) TO 1ST AID APPEAL, C/O CAF FREEPOST TN2257, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT TN2 5BR.

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Decisions on cabinet delayed as Yeltsin consults his allies

An unusually silent Yeltsin has taken a break in the country, leaving behind him increasing worries about the fate of reform

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin abruptly left the Kremlin for his country residence yesterday, delaying the announcement of the new Russian cabinet. He also cancelled the Commonwealth of Independent States summit scheduled for Christmas Day, pleading a "mild cold". Observers believe, however, that he simply has too much else on his plate.

Mr Yeltsin's spokesman said be had retreated "to study documents" and intended to hold talks with Anatoli Chubais, his privatisation chief, and Aleksandr Shokhin, the deputy prime minister, who are both considered prime movers in the reformist cause. Only then would he have talks with Viktor Chernomyrdin, the prime minister, about the final shape of the new government.

of the new government.

Another young minister,
Pyotr Aven, who was responsible for foreign trade and was Russia's chief negotiator in debt talks with the West, resigned yesterday afternoon. With the Russian cabinet in a state of more than usual chaos. it was unclear whether he had decided that the policy drift Mr Chernomyrdin has indicated in several statements was incompatible with a rapid transition to the free market and left on a point of principle or whether he had learnt that Mr Yeltsin planned to sacrifice him and resigned before he was pushed.

The air of unpredictability hanging over Moscow is intensified by the unusual silence from Mr Yeltsin who, since arriving back early from China, has remained publicly inactive as the disorder grows around him. The uncertainty about Russia's next moves, as much as the removal of Mr Aven, is likely to further unsettle Western creditors.

the Western creditors.

While the new prime minister emphasised yesterday that there were "no acute differences" with Mr Yeltsin on the composition of a new government, rumours of more cabinet changes persisted, with Mr Shokhin reported by the Interfax news agency to be unsure of remaining. Ella Pamfilova, responsible for social security and the only woman in the cabinet, resigned on Monday.

Parliament yesterday refused Mr Yeltsin's request that an article be inserted in the constitution stating that he holds the chief executive power in Russia. It did, however, concede him the right to dismiss his prime minister—a significant advantage in any future power battle with Mr Chernomyrdin.

Reformist ministers had earlier pledged to stay in the cabinet and fight for their strategy, but a leak from a senior official in the Central Bank that there was to be a £1.53 billion injection of state funds into the economy and a

general shift away from monetary control seems to have made some ministers reconsider. Mr Yeltsin has denied that the government intends to risk an inflationary spiral by pumping state funds into industry, but wide differences remain with Mr Chernomydin on economic strategy. Rival's advice: Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet

Gorbachev, the former Soviet president, yesterday advised Mr Yeltsin, his rival when he was in office, to draw support from the forces of the centre in parliament instead of relying on radical reformers. Mr Gorbachev told the daily Nezavisimaya Gazeta that, during the recent session of the Congress of People's Deputies, "there emerged a clear centrist force". (AFP)



Fit for a long journey: one of two macaque monkeys undergoing a series of medical tests at a Moscow institute in preparation for a voyage into space in the Bion rocket, which is due to be launched on Monday for a joint Russian-American scientific project



Azerbaijan taps into oil jackpot

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN BAKU

while Georgians long sulkily for the dolce vita of years past, and blockaded Armenia teeters on the edge of starvation, their Muslim neighbours in Azerbaijan, whom they used to despise as poor relations, are sitting more or less comfortably.

The streets of crime-ridden Tbilisi and energystarved Yerevan are deserted after dark, while in Baku the acrid, blustery night air is still rent by an impressive cacophony of badly tuned car engines.

uh Milose

True, the tapwater in the world's oldest oil city is still brownish-black, and it can take all morning to telephone a neighbouring suburb. Moreover, a wretched, brutalising war with the Armenians — whose 3,000 victims must include at least 1,000 women and children — has taken its toll, economically and psychologically. There are fears of a "war of cities" in which the two sides exchange

But there is still an unmistakeable sense in Baku that an important, prosperous and unpredictable new power is emerging in Transcaucasia and the

Middle East.

It shares a language with Turkey, a religion — Shia Islam — with Iran, an administrative and educational system with Russia, and some vital commercial interests with the corporations of the West. It has enjoyed remarkably cordial contacts with Israel, while ties with Iran have been strained by the lobbying of some nationalist Azerbaijanis on behalf of the millions of Azerbaijani speakers who are also Iran-

Now, as 100 years ago, when the Rothschilds and the Nobels turned Baku into a boom town, the key to Azerbaijan's rising prosperity lies in the black liquid which oozes out of the ground along the banks of the Caspian Sea.

While the Soviet breakup left most republics with Azerbaijan found itself sitting on a small Eldorado in the form of at least 350 million tonnes of petroleum deposits deep beneath the sea. This is too deep for local technology to exploit: but annual oil output is expected to double over the next five years, to at least 25 million tonnes, as corporations such as BP and Amoco get to work.

This is one reason for the firmness with which Azerbaijan — despite steadily increasing cultural, political and economic ties with Ankara — rejects the idea of incorporation into a greater Turkey. "We have got rid of one elder brother — the Soviet Union," says Nadjaf Nadjafov, a journalist and spokesman for President Elchibey. "We now have a deep conviction that we don't need any more elder

In a claim that demands a leap of the imagination, as one contemplates the rundown and ecologically blighted city, Mr Nadjafov envisages Azerbaijan becoming a kind of Switzerland of the Near East.

To a Westerner, Azerbai

jan feels a bit like an Arab country in the 1950s or 1960s after the overthrow of a tame, semi-colonial regime a prickly young state is beginning to flex its economic, cultural and military muscles but is unsure which way to leap.

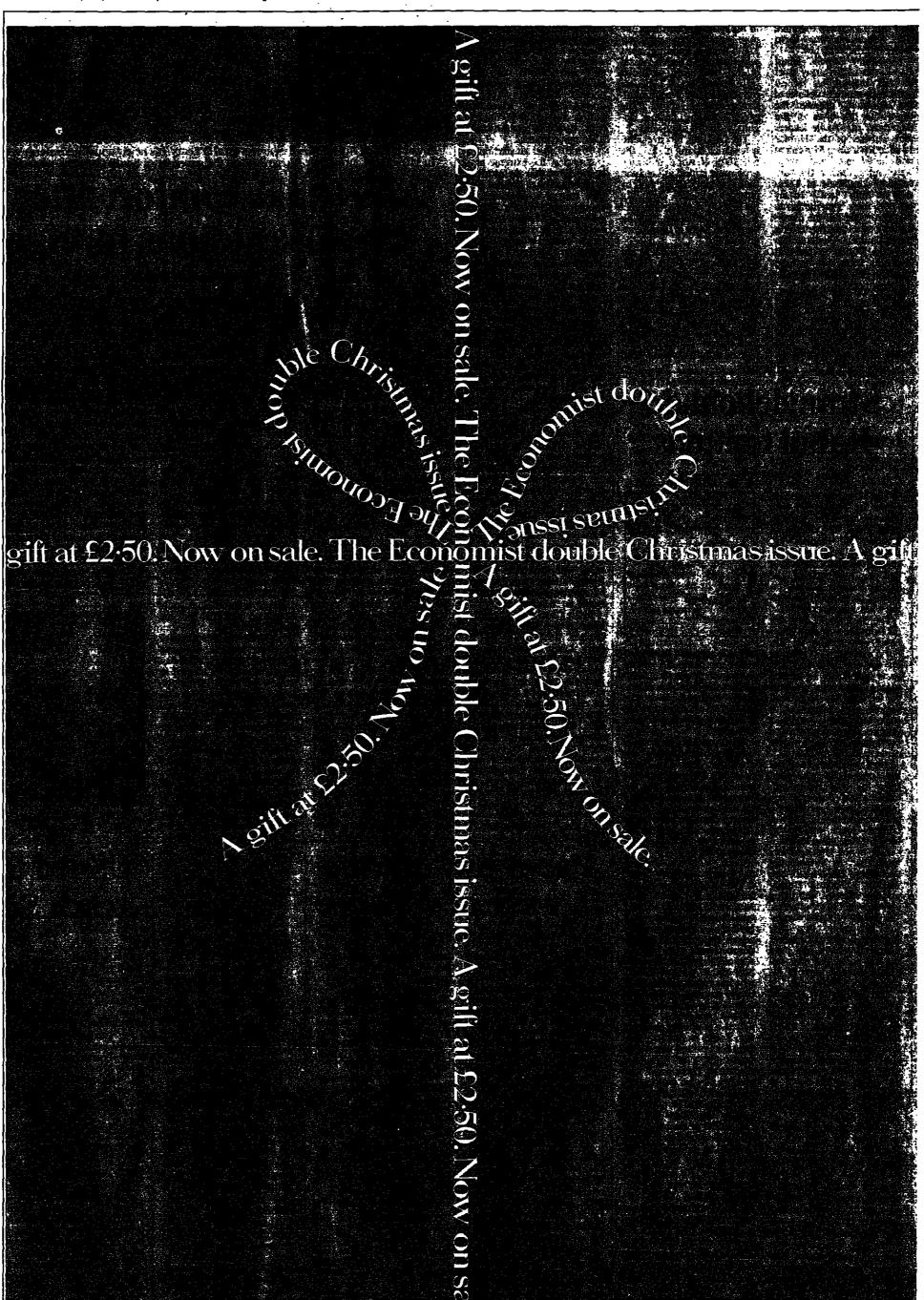
There are pockets of sup-

port for militant Islam; slightly larger ones for the idea of some Turkic political entity stretching from China to Bulgaria. But these could founder on the same rocks of personal ambitions and conflicting interests as the grandiose plans for Arab unity.

The strumpet city on the Caspian, home in Leonid Brezhnev's day to the hottest discotheques and the shortest miniskirts in the Soviet Union, is keeping its admirers guessing.

admirers guessing.

Moscow: Azerbaijan's parliament adopted a law approving Turkish as the official language. (APP)



Israeli court rejects pleas to let trapped deportees return

■ Israel dispatched more troops to the Lebanon border area, fearing a new attempt by Palestinians to re-enter Israeli-held territory

FROM BEN LYNFIELD IN JERUSALEM AND CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN BEIRUT

ISRAEL'S supreme court yesterday rejected appeals to allow back the 415 Palestinians expelled last week. Troop reinforcements were rushed to the border area with Lebanon to prevent a second attempt by the deportees to return to Israeli-held territory from no man's land Chief Justice Meir Shamgar

said the deportees were now in territory under Lebanese jurisdiction, in an apparent endorsement of the argument by Israel's state attorney that Israel was no longer responsible for them. The unanimous decision came at the end of the third day of the court's consideration of petitions from the deportees' lawyers, Avigdor Feldman and Emad Dakwar. to bring them back or otherwise assure their well-being on the grounds that they had not been accepted into Lebanon and that Israel was therefore still responsible for them under international law.

Lieutenant General Ehud Barak, the Israeli army chief of staff, making his second court appearance in defence of the expulsions, disputed the claim that the lives of the deportees, said to be leaders and activists of the Hamas Islamic Resistance Movement and the Islamic Jihad group. were endangered in the "uncertain" conditions of Lebanese no man's land. "In my opinion, there is no danger to the life or safety of the depor-tees as long as they do nothing unreasonable," General Barak said. But he added that "warning shots will be fired again" if they tried to move to

deportees trudged back to their tents after coming under heavy machinegun and mortar fire closer to the heavily mined border crossing into the Israeli

The barbarian at the gate

L is an 18-year-old who

appears to want nothing

more than the chance to

practise his English. He

mans the checkpoint at the

eastern entrance to Kabul

and is, residents of the

Afghan capital believe, in-

flicting hardship by restrict-

ing what supplies reach it.
The Soviet-built flats not far from his post may never have been suitable for Ka-

bul's extremes of climate.

but fuel for the winter now

costs four times an annual

wage. Apartment dwellers

go to wells for water and

cook. Many have sent their

families away, in contrast to

previous years when people

After years of civil war, the

the capital is controlled

from the countryside. Ad-

ministration consists of lay-

ing sandbags and digging gun emplacements. As rival factions jostle for power, they are strangling Kabul.

Few in the city hold any

the Shura Hal-o-Aqad, the interim president, Burha-nuddin Rabbani, will bring about a political solution.

The shura is a representa-

tive assembly that Mr

Rabbani hopes will reselect

him as president and pave

the way for a new constitu-

tion. However, most of his

The fighting that erupted

a fortnight ago is the price of disunity. Shia Hazaras who

dominate one part of Kabul

fought ethnic Tajik troops

loyal to Ahmad Shah Ma-

sood, the defence minister.

This prompted a third force.

an Uzbek militia loyal to

General Abdul Rashid

Dostam, to occupy key

Any long-term solution will need the approval of

General Dostam, whose de-

fection from the Najibullah

regime last April helped

bring it down. A solution

will also require the consent

of the fundamentalist Pushtun nationalist party.

Hezb-i-Islami. This is led by

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who

controls much of the vital supply route to Pakistan.

reconstruction pass through

up to 40 checkpoints be-

Aid agencies involved in

points in the city.

rivals have rejected this.

came to Kabul for safety.



the deportees said that different types of protest action were being planned in the camp but would give no details. The Palestinians are aware of the strong media interest in their plight and determined to

Observers said that two more deportees were injured in the overnight shelling, one man seriously, but he was not found until a morning count had prompted a search. A total of five have been wounded since Israeli-backed Lebanese militiamen used live ammunition to repel the efforts of the exiles, chanting Islamic slogans, to return southwards.

The stand-off, inconveniently for Israel taking place in the full glare of world publicity. grew more critical as Lebanon moved to block all attempts by outside agencies, including the Red Cross, to provide relief to the Palestinians passing their sixth night in uncomfortable limbo.

The refusal to allow in aid was ordered by Rafik Hariri, the prime minister, to back up his assertion that the fate of the Palestinians is entirely Israel's responsibility. A spokesman for the exiles, 30 of whom were reported to be suffering from severe diarrhoea, said that the camp's supply of clean

tween Kabul and Jalalabad.

Some are manned by noth-

ing more threatening than

stuffed dummies, but others

mean business. Even the

United Nations has had

lorryloads of grain and vehi-

Exacting tolls is a time-honoured practice in Af-ghanistan, but few doubt

that Mr Hekmatyar, who

launched a bloody but un-

successful attack on Kabul

in August, is trying to fo-

ment discontent. Hezb-i-

Islami can also control the power supply to Kabul from dams to the east.

M any believe more bloodshed could be

avoided if the nine

Mujahidin leaders and Gen-

eral Dostam agreed on a president among them-selves. The most likely candi-

dates would be figures without strong military sup-port. Syed Ahmed Gailani,

who has royalist leanings, is

in the running, as is Younis

Islamic support.

Khalis, who enjoys hardline

It is a confusing prospect

for Kabul residents, who

long for nothing more than

peace and a few hours of

electricity. There was a rare

glimpse of what political co-

operation might bring when

a World Food Programme

convoy negotiated its way

into Kabul at the beginning

of the week and was waved

through by the young Hezb-

i-Islami guard at the final

checkpoint. No sooner had

the convoy arrived, however.

than fighting broke out again. A rocket landed in the

bazaar killing ten people, including two children.

☐ Highway clash: Fighting

flared on the road east from

Kabul to Pakistan as Hezb-i-

Islami fighters attacked de-

fence ministry forces a mile

from the capital (AFP)

cles seized.

Stranglehold on

Kabul tightens

exhausted and that food and medical supplies were run-

ning low.

As if to underline the harm being caused to Israel's international image by the impasse, only journalists and cameramen were being allowed past the last Lebanese army checkpoint before the tents while United Nations relief trucks and ambulances

The ugly camp, erected amid barren hills, began to take on a more permanent look during the day as some of the Palestinians started to dig latrines and others acquired pieces of corrugated-iron sheeting to provide protection against the bad weather

The tough stand taken by the Lebanese government has boosted the standing of Mr Hariri, a billionaire businessman whose appointment in October has given the country a new confidence after years of civil war. "It is not our responsibility. It is just not normal. Lebanon is not a dumping ground," stated Mr Hariri, who has close contacts with both the Syrian and Saudi governments.
There is quiet satisfaction in

Lebanon at the extreme embarrassment that the incident is causing Israel abroad. For this reason co-operation is being given to Western reporters media, who, until recently, would have faced the possibility of being kidnapped in Lebanon. Beirut's shellscarred international airport is now crowded with drivers holding up signboards to

press and television. Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, told the Knesset foreign affairs and defence committee, that he personally authorised the firing of shells over the heads of my knowledge not one person was hurt. Everything was a show. The proof is that no one was shown in hospital," an official quoted Mr Rabin as saying during the closed session. Mr Rabin also attacked he Association for Citizens Rights in Israel for filing the injunction that forced supreme court scrutiny of the deportations. Leaders of the left-wing Meretz party, Mr Rabin's coalition allies, urged him to follow up the deportations with overtures to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, saying failure to do so would be "a half-done job".

In the Gaza Strip, the army lifted a weeklong closure in selected areas, allowing at least 2,200 Palestinians to cross into Israel for work. But most of the area's 700.000 residents remained confined to their homes by army order. In the West Bank, Palestinians shut their shops for the fifth consecutive day in a commercial strike to protest the deportations.

Arab citizens of Israel held a one-day strike to show solidarity, closing schools and shops in villages throughout north-ern Israel.

Letters, page 13 The selection of the team had been anxiously awaited by



Allies take comfort after Clinton signals cautious foreign policy

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON

diplomats in Washington,

who have been struggling to

predict Mr Clinton's foreign

policy. Throughout the presi-

dential election campaign Mr

Clinton said that if elected he

would be the "domestic presi-

dent", concentrating on America's economic and so-

cial ills. He would not be like

President Bush and place a

higher priority on being a

world leader. Signalling

how domestic issues were up-

Clinton's first cabinet appoint-

Only in the past three weeks,

as the Balkan conflict wors-

ened and Western fears grew

for the reform process in

Moscow, has the Clinton

camp fully realised that inter-

national problems will beset

the new president. Six days

BILL Clinton, the US president-elect, was expected yesterday to name Warren Christopher, a former aide in Jimmy Carter's administration, as his Secretary of State, and Les Aspin, a Democrat congressman and a known hawk in foreign affairs, as defence

The appointments are likely to go some way in reassuring Western allies that the untested Mr Clinton is likely to be cautious and moderate in his foreign policy. The expected Lake, a noted scholar of international relations, as national security adviser will also cause few worries in European Mr Christopher is an expe-

rienced foreign policy professional. He is a conservative and establishment figure. Mr Aspin is well known to foreign governments, having served for many years as chairman of the House of Representatives' armed services committee. He supported Operation Desert Storm in the Gulf war and is unlikely to have much time for dovish Carter-type notions. Mr Lake is also not a rock-theboat figure, despite resigning as an aide to Henry Kissinger, Richard Nixon's Secretary of State, when the United States went into Cambodia. Mr Lake ran the policy planning section in the State Department during the Carter administration and is a respected scholar

of international relations.

he will take an active role in deciding the administration's

stick up for the alleviation of

stage. "From what we know of his record, he's not very good at being a hands-off executive," said Stephen Hess, of the Brookings Institution.

brief is as wide as any American president bas had to face.

ago Mr Clinton acknowl-edged in a speech that "only the United States can play the leadership role". His outline of foreign policy objectives mixed Bush-like ambitions with Carter-like hopes. He said he wanted to remake America's foreign policy for the post-Cold war era, reshape the country's armed forces, boost the nation's competitiveness, promote free markets and democracy throughout the world and "to

human suffering". Mr Clinton's aides say that foreign policy and the extent and limits of what the United

Mr Clinton's foreign policy.

"Essentially we have to erect a whole new conceptual basis for foreign policy after the Cold war," said Will Marshall, the president of the Progressive Policy Institute, Mr Clinton's favourite think-tank. There is now a vacuum. The old rationale no longer works and the new one isn't clear." According to Theodore Sorensen, who served as special counsel to John Kennedy. the president-elect will be "standing at a crossroads, looking at conflicting signposts and holding outdated



Aspin: hawkish figure who is known abroad

Some Democrats who wanted to see a more creative foreign policy team will no doubt criticise Mr Clinton's selections. Whether this team can be as smooth-running as Mr Bush's remains to be seen. James Baker, Richard Cheney and Brent Scowcroft had worked together since the mid-1970s.

Even with this conservative team, the question remains whether Mr Clinton will be sure-footed. His statements in the autumn on reversing the Bush administration's ban on Haitian refugees alarmed State Department officials, who argue that it could trigger another wave of boat people seeking a securer life in the United States. In the case of the Balkan war, the intervention in Somalia, Russia's struggle to reform and Iraq, the president-elect will have to show better instincts.

There is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things." Nicolo Machiavelli advised his prince. As the old world gives way to the new. Mr Clinton stands at an international crossroads, every bit as confusing as the junction Warren Harding faced in 1920 and Harry Truman confronted in 1948. Harding chose isolationism and may have contributed by his inaction to the rise of European fascism. Truman opted to become the architect of the Cold war

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sihanouk appeals for halt to shelling

Phnom Penh: Khmer Rouge guerrillas have unleashed heavy artillery barrages in northwest Cambodia to test the resolve of United Nations peacekeepers, senior Phnom Penh officials said. Fighting around the town of Phun Bavel also threatens the provincial capital, Battambang, In the past week shelling by Khmer Rouge and government forces across the Mongkol Borei river at Bavel. 25 miles northwest of Battambang, has sent at least 10,000 civilians fleeing from

been repatriated from refugee camps in Thailand. Prince Norodom Sihanouk the Cambodian leader, and Yasushi Akashi, head of the United Nations peacekeeping mission, have condemned the violence and appealed for a halt to the shelling.

their homes. Many had just

The Khmer Rouge have refused to disarm or allow voters to register in their zones for elections scheduled for May. In the past month they have directly challenged the UN by kidnapping groups of peacekeeping troops on four occasions. (Reuter)

Fire sweeps city

winds, raced through the heart of St John's, capital of Newfoundland, forcing about 1,000 people from their homes and causing damage estimated at millions of dollars. The cause was not immediately known.

Ramos appeais

Manila: President Ramos appealed to King Fahd to spare two Filipinos said to be facing execution on Christmas Day for preaching Christianity in Saudi Arabia. They have been in prison for two months after allegedly trying to build a church. (AP)

Death duty

Washington: An American public ethics group has said people have "a social duty" to give up their organs upon death. The Communitarian Network proposes mandatory donation of organs for transplants unless the person or a relative objects. (AP)

Nuclear protest

Greenneace has accused Japan of breaking a pledge not to let its plutonium freighter. Akatsuki Maru, sail through the territorial waters of Vanuatu and the Solomon Is-lands, which have lodged strong protests against the ves-sel's passage. (AFP)

Reprisal feared

Delhi: Indian authorities are reinforcing security for the Tai Mahal, fearing an attack on the monument to love, following the destruction of the Moghul-built Ayodhya mosque by Hindu zealots. Visitors will have to be screened by metal detectors. (AFP)

Petrol banned

Scoul: South Korea will ban the sale of leaded petrol from January 1 to help cut pollution, the energy ministry said. Leaded petrol currently accounts for only 14 per cent of total petrol sales here and Seoul suffers acutely from pollution. (Reuter)

Paper boy injured in wave of violence

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

morning paper round yesterday became the latest white casualty of the indiscriminate violence that has reduced South Africa to a state of nervous terror. Tinus Swart was delivering

papers in Randburg, a dormitory town on the outskins of Johannesburg, when gunmen in a car opened fire on a minibus carrying black commuters to work. Tinus was wounded in the legs by the bullets, but should be out of hospital by Christmas.

Captain Eugene Opperman, the police spokesman for the Johanesburg area, said two other people were wounded but declined to identify them. The gunmen's car, spotted later at a nearby shopping centre, was chased through a white suburb. Three men were being held but a fourth, armed with an AK47 automatic rifle,

The killing of a white girl, aged 14, at the weekend on an farm near Ficksburg in Orange Free State, close to the border of independent Lesotho, and of an elderly white farmer on Monday night at Theunissen, northeast of Bloemiontein, the province's capital, has created an atmosphere of panic and distrust. In Johannesburg, there is an uneasy awareness among the Christmas shopping crowds that borders on panic.

Yesterday the government proclaimed 23 magisterial districts in the eastern Orange Free State and the eastern Cape Province as "unrest areas", which gives the police extra power of arrest and detention. In Transvaal, commando units of the army have been put on alert in case the violence spreads.

Predictably the ultra-right wing got into the act and Eugene Terre Blanche, leader of the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement, said vesterday that the movement would do all in its power to prevent attacks on whites. He called on the government to provide subsidised electrified fences around farms.

State bank aiding Moi

FROM REUTER

denies

KENYA'S central bank poured scorn yesterday on opposition charges that it was printing money to fi-nance President Moi's campaign to retain power in

next week's elections. The bank took the unusual step of issuing a long statement denying charges that it had ordered the equivalent of £125 million in local currency to finance the election campaign of the ruling Kenya African National Union. The charges were the lat-

est by key opposition figures claiming that President Moi and his supporters are fighting a dirty campaign to cling to power. The opposition says the government is handing out money to buy the loyalty of its supporters and to bribe its candidates to withdraw from the poll.

US-led troops press inland to reach Somalia famine towns

FROM PAUL HOLMES IN MOGADISHU

A THOUSAND US Marines and French troops headed for the Somali interior yesterday in a Christmas push which will extend Operation Restore Hope to Baidera and three other famine-hit towns.

As columns of vehicles snaked out of Mogadishu at dawn. Washington was again under pressure from the United Nations secretary-general to disarm Somalia's feuding wardords and gun-toting gangs of looters. Boutros Boutros Ghali said in a long report that the American-led task force should stay in Somalia until security was established and spread their mission to the whole country.

"It would be a tragedy if the premature departure or remodelling of the unified task force were to plunge Somalia back into anarchy and starvation," Dr Boutros Ghali said. Ali Mahdi Muhammad, the main warlord in north Mogadishu, was to move his "technicals" - the locals' name for trucks armed with

launchers - out of the capital yesterday under a deal with his rival. General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, who withdrew his technicals on Monday. The deal implements part of a seven-point peace accord the two men agreed on December 11, two days after the start of the multinational armed mission to keep food for famine victims safe from pillaging gunmen. The accord was brokered by America, but Washington said the task of disarming a country awash with weapons should fall to UN peacekeepers who will eventually replace the 38,000 American and foreign troops involved in

Operation Restore Hope. Gunmen and their technicals have mostly faded into the bush ahead of the landing of task force troops at Mogadi-shu. Bali Dogle airfield, Baidoa and the southern port of Kismayu since December 9. American and French forces have fired on technicals that venture into areas they control, perceiving them as hostile. At

least four Somalis have been killed and up to 14 injured. Signs emerged yesterday, however, that the gunmen were growing bolder as the 700 US Marines and 300 French troops left Mogadishu airport in several convoys for the 150-mile journey northwest to Baidoa, Somalia's "city of death". Colonel Buck Bedard told his marines to keep their weapons well on show on the road to Baidoa, where the number of Somalis brandishing guns had increased in recent days. "I don't know what the hell is causing this hostility, but you better be aware of it. This is no time to crash back and sleep." he said.

The marines will fan out quickly from Baidoa over mined and flooded roads for Baidera, 75 miles southwest. and three towns to the north. An American source said the plan was to enter Baidera on Christmas Eve. Hoddur on Christmas Day, in a Frenchled operation, and Jalalaksi and Belet by carly next week (Reuter)

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TO SERVICE STREET

Brittan chosen to steer EC through critical world trade talks



Shellin

Alle Grange

Delors: shuffled his

IN BRUSSELS

JACQUES Delors shuffled his European commissioners for the third and last time yesterday, making Britain's senior commissioner the EC's top trade negotiator as the world trade talks enter a critical phase.

M Delors' new team contains a few stars and sturdy veterans but is weak lower in the batting order. M Delors, who will end his term as president of the Commission at the end of 1994 if he does not leave Brussels sooner to run for the French presidency, has found it hard to attract politically influential commissioners because another reshuffle is scheduled in two years — if the Maastricht treaty comes into force. The Commission proposes and enforces EC law, but its powers in foreign and immigration policy are

The largest change revealed by yesterday's share-out of responsibilities reflects revolutionary changes in the international system of recent years. Foreign affairs will now be split between Hans van den Broek, the outgoing Dutch foreign minister, and Britzin's senior commissioner. Sir Leon Brittan. Mr van den Broek will handle the Commission's political diplomacy and its responsibilities for foreign policymaking under the Maastricht treaty as well as the talks on bringing Austria, Sweden, Finland and Norway into the EC. Sir Leon emerged from weeks of

horse-trading with responsibility for

external trade negotiations and the aid programmes for Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Sir Leon, who has run competition policy for the last four years, will remain in the limelight, being involved in the talks on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in Geneva. Suspended for two years while the EC and America inched towards a deal on farm subsidies, the talks are restarting with difficulty and the Commission's negotiators are under attack from a French government bent on unravelling the

dividing newly-demarcated subjects which can overlap, Mr van den Broek and Sir Leon could easily be entangled in the kind of internal row which has damaged the Commission's credibility in the world trade talks. But both men are on the centre-right and will realise that they can only exercise any leverage against M Delors, a socialist, if they stick together. M Delors will be wary of both men. Sir Leon is advocates too liberal economic policies for his liking and Mr van den Broek is a watchful opponent of M Delors's characteristically French wish to tug Europe away from the Atlantic alliance.

M Delors would like to keep a close eye on the diplomatic portfolio, which he is finally relinquishing to a fellow commissioner, by inserting one of his closest aides. Pascal Lamy, as Mr van den Broek's most senior official. M Larny, a French official with a fearsome reputation as an enforcer of M Delors' edicts, is expected to run in next spring's parliamentary election in France and lose. He will then be

As two strong political personalities looking for a job back in Brussels, M Delors has rewarded his current favourite, Karel van Miert, a Belgian, with the supervision of competition policy - and has broken the unwritten rule which has barred socialist commissioners from that job. The appointment will stir fears that the political discretion built into EC competition policy will be used as a form of dirigiste industrial policy. But Mr van Miert will have to follow the precedents established by his two effective predecessors, and was indeed a notable promoter of free-market solutions in his job as transport commissioner.

Ottawa: A dispute between Canada and the EC has been resolved, at least temporarily, with an agreement by the Europeans to curtail their fishing activities off Newfoundland. The EC has pledged to honour quotas set by the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, a 12-country alliance that in-cludes EC members and Canada.

> Leading article, page 13 Business comment, page 19

EC PORTFOLIOS

From January 6 1993

President Jacques Delors service, monetary matters and Spokesman's service. Mr Henning Christophersen Mr Menuel Marin

Mr Martin Bangemant Sir Leon Brittan Mr Abel Metutes Mr Peter Schmidhuber Mrs Christiane Scrivene

Mr Karel van Mier Hans van den Broe

Mr Antonio Ruberti Mr Rene Steichen

Economic and financial affairs Cooperation and development humanitarian aid. Industrial affairs & infotech External economic affairs and trade Energy and transport Budgets and fraud prevention

Secretariat General, think-tank legal

Regional policy Competition and personnel

Communications, information and Social affairs, immigration and judicia

Agriculture Environment and fisheries

Dutch DC10 pilots relive moments before Faro crash

Investigators will be keen to assess how far wind was to blame

By HARVEY ELLIOTT; AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE pilots of the Dutch DC10 which crashed in Portugal with the loss of 54 lives provided investigators yesterday with the first full description of the last few moments of their ill-fated attempt to land in conditions which required flying skills of the highest

Without even realising it, they may have encountered windshear - one of the most feared of all meteorological conditions - at the most critical time of landing.

The phenomenon is so common in parts of America and the Far East that well over 100 airports have now installed sophisticated warning devices to enable pilots to divert before they enter the danger zone. Most new aircraft are also fitted with detection equipment which gives an indication on the instrument panel and some of the latest even have an insistent voice warn-

pean airports, including Faro, do not provide the necessary monitoring equipment and the DC10 is not fitted with detection instruments. Pilots are, however, now routinely trained how to fly through the conditions - also known as microbursts - where the behaviour of the wind has been likened to that of water tipped

Weeping relatives greet survivors

By Our Foreign Staff

SURVIVORS of the Dutch explained how he tried to Martinair DC10 crash in southern Portugal began returning home yesterday. At the same time investigators were still trying to identify the bodies of the 54 holidaymakers who died in Monday's

disaster at Faro airport.
In Amsterdam, relatives weeping with relief met the first group of survivors to return, two passengers and seven crew members. Officials said most of the 286 survivors of the charter flight who were fit enough to travel would return home later on two aircraft, one of which can carry at least 40 stretcher

In Faro, some of the survivors of the 340 people originally on board Flight 495 sat in a hotel bar into the early hours of yesterday trying to piece together details of the crash. Wim Kodman, 27, a Dutch botanist from Utrecht.

At threshold alrcraft straightens up as pilot fights to keep

ing of "windshear". Because the problem is less common in Europe, Euro-

smashed into the ground."

door in the side."

WAS IT WINDSHEAR OR CROSSWIND?

Still using control wheel pilot

drops right wing to to counter

FLYING THROUGH WINDSHEAR

in winter are used to landing in turbulent and squally conditions. Normally a DC10 should not attempt to land if cross-winds exceed between 30 and 35 knots and pilots are instructed to find an alternate diversion airport or wait for conditions to improve. Even below that level "seat of the pants" flying skills are required to maintain the aircraft calm his friend as the jet flew in line with the runway and to

through turbulence. "I told touch down smoothly. him, 'I'm a scientist - we're objective'," he said. "I told Pointing the nose in the direction of the wind the pilot "crabs" along the extended him a crash was improbable. I centre-line of the runway until he is about 200ft above the was trying to remember the exact probability when we ground. By talking constantly to air traffic controllers he can Klaus Leiwemann, 22, said: obtain the latest information "We crashed and everything about the strength of the wind was black - there was smoke and, if it appears to be too high, go around again. and no air. Then the roof fell down in front of us and

surface. At first they experi-

ence a sudden sharp increase

in airspeed as they fly into

high head winds, then a

hammer blow from above as

they fly through the main down-draught followed within

seconds by a tail-wind which

effectively causes the aircraft to

In regular six-monthly

checks on pilots' flying skills in

simulators such conditions are

recreated and pilots are told

how to go against their natural

instincts by pushing the throt-

tles forward even though the

airspeed is increasing so that

they have enough power to

counter the sudden tailwind.

All pilots who fly in Europe

The pilot of the DC 10 made suddenly there were flames. Me and my friend climbed one such attempt at landing and on his second attempt was over the seats towards the hit by either the second phase back and got out through a of windshear or a sudden gust Marcel Meeuwesse, 26, a from his right. By now he was almost at touch down point. carpenter who was seated towards the rear of the airlinthe plane's allerons moving up and down rapidly as he twister, said he had a sick feeling ed the control wheel to counter something was wrong just before the plane crashed, then the the wind which was trying to push his wing upwards. Investigators will want to es-"there was no air — I could not breathe - and suddenly there's black smoke all around". tablish just how strong the

Head winds hit wing suddenly inreasing airspeed, but pilot must boost power

be tipped off runway



Cup of comfort: a woman wounded in the Dutch DC10 crash at Faro in southern Portugal giving her baby a drink before flying home to Holland yesterday

Experts discount sanctions as cause of Libyan disaster

By David Watts, diplomatic correspondent

EVIDENCE grew last night that the Libyan Arab Airlines Boeing 727 which crashed on an internal flight yesterday with the loss of 157 lives had collided with a military aircraft. Expens denied that the crash could have been due to a shortage of spare parts caused

The sanctions include a ban on sales of aviation spare parts to Libya Major Abdel-Salam Jalloud, Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's deputy as Libyan leader, said last month that this was putting passengers' lives at risk. "Flights of Libyan Airlines are about to stop ... Every day there are dozens of flights on which passengers are in danger because of the lack of spare parts and mainte-nance. This is mass murder," he told the Libyan equivalent

The supply of aircraft and the insurance of passengers and machines are also banned under the United Nations sanctions. These were im-

posed to try to get the Libyan government to hand over for international investigation two men suspected of involvement in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 which was brought down over Lockerbie, killing all 270 on board. The crash of Libyan Arab Airlines Flight 1103 occurred a day after the fourth anniversary of

France also wants Tripoli's co-operation in the investigation of four other Libyans suspected of an attack on a French UTA airliner in 1989 which killed 170 people.

The Boeing 727 is one of the world's best-selling aircraft, 1.831 having been delivered by the time it went out of production about ten years ago. Its engines, Pratt and Whitney JT8D turbofans. have been used across the whole family of Boeing aircraft and have amassed millions of flying hours. Libyan Arab Airlines flew about ten

727s until yesterday's accident

but had been prevented from buying the aircraft's high-Boeing 757 and 767.

There are multiple sources of supply for spares as long as you can get them into the country," one expert said. The major effort has been to stop new technology engines and aircraft getting into the country. I don't know how you would stop old spare parts getting in.

The 600-mile border with Egypt is porous. It would be a simple matter to get either parts or expertise into the country. With aerospace industries burgeoning from Sin-gapore to Brazil, there is no shortage of firms with the competence.

Some countries have been less than rigorous about observing sanctions, and until quite recently it was reported that Sudanese airliners were continuing to serve Tripoli.

Crash report, page 1

Shadows fall on temple of song

FROM CHARLES BREMNER

Few tears were shed when the Folies Bergere closed its show this week and faced an uncertain future. The old revue had declined into a tarnished shadow of its former glory. A threat to the Olympia music hall is another matter.

A temple of popular song. the black-and-red theatre on the Boulevard des Capucines has been home to great performers since La Goulue, Toulouse-Lautrec's dancer friend, opened the show in 1893. Past regulars include Maurice Chevalier, Mistinguette, Piaf, Trenet. Brel, Brassens, Montand. Aznavour, Sinatra and the

The spectre of demolition first emerged last summer when Société Générale, the bank which owns the whole block, raised doubts about renewing the lease next year. The alarm was sounded again this week when Le Monde reported plans to redevelop the district, between the Madeleine and the Opéra.

Jack Lang, the culture minister, has made the right noises in defence of the Olympia, but there is a suspicion that as a middle-of-the-road commercial op-eration which makes a profit, the hall fails his passion for art which is either high or very low-brow.

The bank, which wants to I develop the prime site for boutiques and offices. has promised to keep the 2.000-seat hall in some form, but it is studying options which range from demolition to moving it underground. A committee of the producers, negotiat-ing with the bank, is worried that rebuilding will destroy the soul of the theatre. "Put a pick-axe into the Olympia and the ghosts will vanish," said Jean-Michel Boris, the

M Lang could preserve the building in the time it takes to sign his name. In 1988 he decreed a category of lieu de mémoire when Fouquet's, the fashionable restaurant on the Champs Elysées, was threatened with being turned into a

shopping centre. In the losing campaign against "franglais", academics have subjected M Mitterrand to another petition over his government's fail-ure to take tougher action against American English. The danger from linguistic invaders has been dramatised by a new historical dictionary. To the dismay of many patriots, this reveals that French has saved only 68 words of true Gallic origin in the onslaught of Latin, Germanic and other

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lottery pays out £812m

Madrid: Spain's Christmas lottery, said to be the world's richest and known as El Gordo (the Fat One), yesterday rained £812 million in tax-free winnings on thou-sands of ticket-holders, includ-

ing King Juan Carlos.
The five-digit number picked for the grand prize paid £1.6 million to holders of each of the 95 tickets bearing the same number. Since each ticket cost about £165 to buy, most were split among friends and families. The lottery marks the start of the holiday season and is more popular in Spain than soccer or Santa.

King Juan Carlos won £85 from a ticket purchased for £18 by a friend, who sends the monarch a ticket numbered 00000 every year. (AP)

Eurocorps deal

Brussels: The Franco-German army corps — the Euro-corps, which might later be expanded to include soldiers from Belgium, Spain and Luxembourg — could act as part of Nato forces in defence and peacekeeping operations. according to an agreement reached between the United States and its Nato allies yesterday. (Reuter)

Nazis banned

Bonn: Germany banned a fourth neo-Nazi militant group, the National Offensive, in a continuing clampdown on anti-foreigner and anti-Semitic violence. The interior ministry said the group had about 140 members. (Reuter)

Envoy killed

Kampala: Gunmen killed an Italian diplomat in the Ugandan capital. Salvatore Valvo. 63, was waylaid at the gate of his residence, north of the city. his wife Sarah said. He tried to fight off the gunmen but was overpowered and shot at close range. (AFP)

Trees suffering

Brussels: Europe's trees are sick and getting worse, according to a European Commission report based on a survey of 83,000 trees in 19 countries. More than one in five had signs of damage from atmospheric pollution. (Reuter)

Open market

Helsinki: Parliament approved a law allowing foreigners to buy businesses and property in Finland from next year. The left-wing opposition accused the centre-right gov-ernment of selling Finland's unspoilt forests and lakesides for francs and marks. (AP)

Gay weddings

Frankfurt: The district court here has told registry officials to accept applications for homosexual marriages but the decision might not stand as the officials are expected to appeal to a higher court. Samesex marriages are illegal in Germany. (AP)

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Jan Ro

Success has a thin time



SARAH MOWER

h good. Crash diet-ing can be fatal? I'm so glad the news has come in time for Christmas. It'll make all the difference to all of us who wake up on January I feeling gross and swearing to lose half a stone in a week. Won't it?

Fat chance. Women may be in a different league from men when it comes to absorbing the latest health news, and acting upon it. but one thing we'll never give up is dieting. In a world where thinness

is integral to a woman's judgment of her success, the thought of being a slim corpse at your own untimely funeral is less likely to be reckoned a tragedy than an achievement.

Perverse? Stupid? Of course. But who among us is equal to prising apart "thin" and "successful"? It doesn't matter how much you're paid or how famous you are, if your hip bones don't stick made it, baby.

American women are most explicit about this. Liz Tilberis, the editor of the American magazine, Harper's Bazaar, says that when she delivers speeches about the pressure and rewards of her move to the States. gathering a new staff and relaunching in record time. she has one sure fire punchline: "But the best thing of all." she says, looking around her female audience, "is that I lost 16 pounds!" Whereupon, women leap to their feet cheering.

Conversely, Lord help you if it goes the other way. Last week, in The New York Times, Stella Schindler, a judge, wrote of her highly influential but necessarily sedentary job, "I can change a child's life . . . give voice to are protected. If only I could lose 15 pounds, it would be the best job in the world." like Oprah Winfrey, who has made herself the highest-paid woman in television, it is not enough for this judge to be powerful. recognised, a name to coniure with. Unless she's thin, too, she cannot count herself as totally satisfied.

Almost, it doesn't matter how mad a woman's behavplace all the elements of essary for true success. So long as she's thin, fine. I know women in New York

viduals who are patently in need of sleep - who get up at 5am to go to the gym and kick the hell out of a punchbag for two hours before work. For many, though, violent exercise is but a preliminary torture in the day-long battle against

veight-gain. The last time I was there, I found myself sitting next to a millionairess at a dinner. After scarcely lifting her face from the plate during four courses, she abruptly left the table and after 45 minutes, hadn't reappeared.

I started to worry. The best "Aw, don't," said the person sitting thing of on my other side.
"She's only in the all is that bathroom throwing up."
Instinctively, we I lost 16 pounds!'

are horrified, sad-

gered by others' self-destructive strategies for keeping off weight. But how-ever bizarre, we also know it's a "normal" madness. If we're shocked by extremesounding stories from America, we shouldn't kid ourselves that things are any

I well remember the editor of a British mass market women's magazine - not a slimming magazine - who remarked that the one distinguishing feature of her readers was that they all wanted to lose a stone. That was Mrs Average, UK.

better here.

know we'll be in for a bout of listening to some otherwise dever, together, achieving girlfriend who will be complaining about wanting to lose weight. It will be tedious and you will have to grit your teeth to stop screaming, for God's sake shut up, you're lovely as you are!

The thing is this no dole out genuine approval and reassurance to your friend, you know in your heart you'll never be able to apply it to yourself. Not until you're nine stone, anyway. Is there a doctor in the world who can do a thing to change this? I doubt it. Happy Christmas eating!

Are high-tech special effects the most effective way to thrill? Rosie Millard reports

Get your teeth into some special effects

A story set in the super-natural, you know you will embrace the world of the special effects; it's part of the fun of it." For his latest project, a television adaption of Heinrich Marschner's 19th-century Gothic opera, The

Vampyre, which starts on BBC2 next Tuesday, he has embraced a series of stunning special effects which transform it from, say, a singing version of Capital City into a bloody nightmare.

And fun it certainly is. Apart from transforming our satanic antihero, Mr Ripley, into a fully-fanged vampire via a snarling wolf, the production includes exploding windows, hurtling crucifixes and a car gushes which blood.

variation and sophistication of the effects is startling, if only because they are directly comparable with their counterparts on the big screen or pop video. Given an audience increasingly familiar with films which casually melt people into pools of water, or with Michael Jackson videos which transform the human

face into all its

racial variations in

special effect for BBC2's opera, The Vampyre seemingly the same shot, the production has been wise to avoid cranky old stage make-up and instead gone in for £45,000worth of special effects.

Looking directly to specia effects movies such as Terminator 2, which he admits is "the benchmark", Mr Finch has used "morphing" (from anamorphosis), a computer to achieve the effect of a vampire appearing without a discernible mix. In only four frames, Ripley is transformed from a normal yuppie into a yuppie sporting red eyeballs,

long hair and huge fangs. Mitch Mitchell, the series special effects supervisor, explains morphing in terms of a face being drawn onto a

coording to the direc- rubber balloon. "If you want- are great for conveying liquid ed to change it into the face of metal robots, but for really soon as you take on a a dog," he says, "you would attach lots of pieces of thread onto each drawn line. You tend not to work. People are so pleased with creating them, then pull each thread in such a that they tend to be shown off way as to make the human in broad daylight, as it were. face move into the shape of a dog's head. Then you draw the musicals which get ready for face of a dog onto another balloon in the same way, and audience ends up with just a pull those threads so it resem-bles the shape of a human sense of spectacle and wonder, rather than involvement.

"It's interesting that in Francis Ford Coppola's Dracula, he just uses antique trickery, like people leaping out of hidden trap doors." The same could be said for The

Vampyre. Al-though the latest computerised transformations are applied to the action, Mr Finch has added them to mechanical devices involving The vampire's transformation is drenched in blood, as if to cancel out the effortless skill of his "morph" from man to beast. Old-fashioned tricks involving weights, explosives and traps are in evidence throughout the production.

One scene involves garage staff opening the boot of the vampire's Mercedes with a crowbar. We are forewarned by the threatening music to expect some-

thing nasty, and indeed, when they force the face. Transformation occurs boot open, hundreds of gal-lons of blood come shooting when you mix from one balloon to the other and you see out, an effect created by the human face apparently hosepipes, weights and a lot of Seamless transformations crimson-coloured water.

"You don't want to have such amazing effects that people will sit back and think, 'How did they make that?'," motion of the show." Even when the vampire gets his come-uppance, courtesy of a crucifix through the heart, Mr Finch has relied upon a polystyrene prop on a wire, set off by an explosive. "There is a kind of innocence about the earlier techniques of special effects which people respond to," he says. "For this reason, I have been somewhat frugal with the electronic effects. People won't gasp with amaze-ment for effects alone. You need the fundamentals of story-telling for a really suc-

cessful production. Even though he has had a wealth of modern technology to play with, Mr Finch has been dogged by problems all directors would recognise. "We had this wonderful moment where Satan would be transformed from a goat to a human. However, when the goat we hired appeared on set, it was so freaked out that it started attacking people. We gave up with that one."







A changed man: computerised "morphing" has been used in The Vampyre's impressionistic transformations of man to vampire via wolf

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Does that gun refuse to fit snugly under your outfit? One women's designer has the answer A sure-fire winner

ohn Wayne tied his six-gun around his waist and no one questioned his sense of style. Al Capone opted for the accessory of a violin case to conceal his machine gun. And of course, there was the immaculately dressed 007 whose DJ was always unwrinkled despite the Walther PPK under his left arm.

Blood bath: gallons of crimson-coloured water

shoot out of a car boot in a mechanical

change to a dog's head."

moment of theatricality.

are not, however what the

original opera was about

when man becomes vampire,

Marschner's music builds up,

ated The Vampyre's effects

achieved their transformation

so perfectly that the moment

was almost in danger of being overlooked by the audience.

Ripley just kind of shook his

head, and he was a vampire,"

Mr Finch says. "You might almost have missed it."

Indeed, the digital, computerised effects so beloved by the

genre of Schwarzenegger

movies, have become so

streamlined that they are in

danger of losing the very effect

they have been created to

achieve. With no creaking trap doors or creepy shadows to conceal trip wires or pupper

manipulators, any suggestion

The film critic, Kim New-

man, thinks this is a problem

for the contemporary horror

movie. "All these special effects

of tension or horror is lost.

nfortunately,

editors at the Mov-

ing Picture film

company who cre-

In the movies men wear guns as if they are part of their ensemble, like a Rolex or a signet ring; it is a sign of good grooming and invariably stylish. But sexual equality in the gun-toting business has brought a particular set of problems for the female bodyguard, special agent or safetyconscious woman-on-the-go who needs to look glamorous while packing a Glock automatic.

Bond could always solve the problem of the bulging armpit or jutting jacket with a quick visit to his Savile Row tailor but today's women are not so fortunate and until now heavy hips, an unusually buxom breast or unnatural bagginess around the bottom was just part of the job. But now American women have Linda Mutchnick.

"Women can handle guns as well as men but because of our physiques we can't conceal

them as easily. If a woman wears a holster, for instance, the swell of her hips causes the barrel of the gun to be pushed out, and the butt to be pushed in, which can be painful," says the 49-year-old Mrs Mutchnick, an American designer whose new line of clothes caters specifically to women who carry weapons for selfprotection.

"Off the rack garments just don't accommodate the additional bulk of two-and-a-half to three inches of hard steel in addition to everything else," she says. Mrs Mutchnick should know. She has been carrying weapons for more than a decade after receiving a series of threatening phone calls and owns several Berettas and a Smith & Wesson.

She has tried tucking her gun into form-fitting jeans, only to be jabbed in the rib cage as she slides into the seat of her Jaguar. She tried wearing a shoulder holster under the jackets she sported for her job as a legal secretary, but to no avail. It wrecked the sleekness of the outfit and she felt as if she could not get at the gun

fast enough in case of an

But with her new company, PistolERA, she hopes to provide new opportunities for women to wear "comfortable, concealing, stylish" clothes —

and carry a gun. Priced on

The discerning woman can now order special purses, holsters, bras and girdles

average between \$110 to \$275 (£70 to £176), the new PistolERA (a play on the Spanish word for gunman) line includes jackets, waistcoats, trousers and skirts, all of which are customised to fit clients according to their size and the kind of weapon they pack. "I ask clients what kind of gun they're carrying and

where, which determines the strength of the interfacing and the gauge of elastic I use," she says. Her blouson style jacket is made to carry three different guns. It is designed for the law enforcement officer, rather than the professional women

she usually sells to. So far, Mrs Mutchnick has received more orders than she can handle. Having only finished her brochure and catalogue at the end of October. she has already had to expand her dressmaking team to five and she is hiring again. But PistolERA's sudden suc-

cess is not surprising. More than 15 million women own guns in America and an increasing number of women have begun carrying them since the mid-1980s. The National Rifle Association's (NRA) 33,000 trainers now report that 50 to 70 per cent of the people who take their basic pistol courses are female, compared with only 3 per cent in the late 1980s.

Many gun manufacturers, such as Smith & Wesson, have even been publicising special "ladies" lines" of guns featur-

ing smaller handgrips and guns that are easier to handle and conceal. Gun accessories specifically aimed at women are also becoming more popular. The discerning woman can now order special purses, holsters, bras and girdles from such outlets as the Bang Bang Boutique, Feminine Protection and Lady Be Safe.

Designer dressing has been a part of American law enforcement for some years. Agents working for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) carry weapons as a matter of course and both the sexes generally carry their guns in a holster that fits on to a belt.

The FBI has also designed a handbag for women agents that allows for a quick draw in an emergency and makes it difficult for criminals to seize it in a struggle.

But for America's hoods, visible firepower is still more important than the designer look "Criminals carry guns any way they can," says Ste-phen Markardt, an FBI agent. They don't shop at the same professional equipment stores we do. They stick them in their waistbands or stuff them in their pockets."

RENE RILEY-ADAMS

Walking on the wild side

Suzanne Capper died violently after drifting into a world of drugs and

hopelessness, reports Jon Ronson

he walk between the bus stop on Oxford Road and Manchester is about 500 yards, but you would be lucky if you were stopped for money fewer than half-adozen times. Some hold guitars, but don't really know how to play them. Others huddle in doorways skinm. Others huddle in doorways, skinny youngsters with drug dependencies and skinny dogs. One familiar face, recognisable by his overzealous and outdated mohawk haircut, holds a sign out that reads: "30p Bus." He grunts, and indicates the sign, because he has no vocal chords.

Later, inside the Ritz, you see the same faces, because entry is only [] and you get a token for a free pint before 11pm. They sit in the corridor in the basement near the cloakroom and beg money from the students. The thump of the bass bins from the music has such a velocity that the fire-

Muggers are fast, professional and armed. When they have taken your money, they don't run away, they tell you to run away

doors swing open and closed in time to the beat. This is the neighbourhood that 16-year-old Suzanne Capper began drifting into in the months before her death-last week.

Manchester, like Liverpool, is suffering from an economic imbalance. Superficially, it is a city of growth. Next year it will play host to an international environmental conference. This autumn, it held the highly successful "In the City" pop seminar. It has a small, but fighting, chance of staging the Olympics in 2000. Expensive canal-side cases are springing up faster than you can count them: the joke around town is that you can sip cappuccino all day and gaze out at

the corpses floating past.
Last week, John Stalker, the former Manchester police force, was quoted as saying that in Manchester a gun is now considered to be a fashion accessory. Crack has hit hard, and it is a drug that no amount of governmental propaganda can over-dramatise. Crack takes away your conscience. It encourages violent tendencies. Users become very dependent on it, and the effects wear off after only 20 minutes. Crack has a strangle-hold over parts of Manchester. If you are walking alone late at night through Hulme or Moss Side or the tough estates of Moston or Blakeley or Cheetham Hill, you can a house near the estate for a week,



On the streets: a homeless 17-year-old youth is provided with soup by a Christian group in the centre of Manchester

expect to be mugged. The muggers are fast, professional and armed. When they have taken your money. they don't run away, they stand there and tell you to run away.

Suzanne Capper came from Moston's New Estate, a product of the "built-to-collapse" housing policy of the 1960s. A predominantly white neighbourhood, it is also highly sectarian. There are regular fights bet-ween the youths of New Moston and the youths of the original Moston. Many on the estate come from generations of poor north Mancunians, decent people, but people who, as one resident says, "usually spawn one weirdo child per crop". Others are middle-class drop-outs. fans of the "grunge" culture, of pop groups such as Nirvana and Mud-honey. Drugs are rife. Those on heroin are a risk only to themselves (their crime is stealing, not physical assault), but those on crack and amphet-

amines can become desperate. Suzanne had been held hostage at

starved of food and water, and injected with drugs. Her teeth were hammered out. She was thrown off a cliff. Her head was shaved, she was stripped naked and finally set on fire at Romiley Park, near Stockport. Suzanne died three days after she was discovered by a dustman on his earlymorning founds.

oston's New Estate is shops and the Kestrel pub. A couple of burntout cars litter the street near the sandpit, near where Angela and her baby daughter live. Angela, who is in her early twenties, was a friend of Suzanne, and one of a growing breed of Manchester drifters. They don't work, have no money, and rarely leave the houses that they find themselves living in before dark. They just get through the day somehow. Making a coffee can last an hour. A trip to the shops is an afternoon out, especially on the estate, as the short-cut through the side streets is a war zone, and the main roads can add a mile to the journey. It is difficult to ascertain the extent of homelessness among the young in Manchester. Few actually live on the streets, because there's such a predominance of vacant property: from disused textile warehouses to empty Hulme flats, the occupants of which fled the neighbourhood violence.

The city council has a positive lessness, often renting flats (paid for by housing benefit) to people as young as 16. They accept 10,000 single homeless applicants a year. Angela makes me coffee, and, in the corner, Lauren plays with their pet rottweiler. "We used to live in Blakeley," Angela says. "But some guy moved in and started smashing all the plates every time Manchester City lost, so we came out here."

About 20 minutes after my arrival, there is a violent knock on the door, and the rottweiler springs to life.

"Wait here," Angela says to me, startled. "Look after Lauren." Lauren

runs to me and jumps on my knee. Her mother grabs the dog and heads to the door. It is made of thin, easily breakable wood, so the knock-ing is a formality. If anyone wanted to get in, one kick would do it.

"Angela," shouts an urgent voice through the door. "It's Paul. Sue's fallen down the stairs and there's blood everywhere. I need to borrow £5 to get her a taxi to hospital."

an ambulance from the callbox." "It's broken," Paul shouts back. 'Please! I think she's dying."

"I've got the dog here," Angela replies. After a moment, Paul leaves. Back in the living room, Angela shudders. "Who's Sue?" I say. "Paul's three-year-old daughter," she says. "I'd have lent him a fiver," I say.

"There's nothing wrong with Sue." Angela explains. "He does this every week. Comes up with new ways of trying to get money out of us all to buy drugs." She chuckles. "That's a new getting a taxi to hospital."

Better to give than volunteer

Seasonal offers of help to charities are not always totally welcome

don't expect other people to make donations of this size," said the Hungarianbillionaire, George Soros, who has just given \$50 million to charities to be used to help people in the former Yugoslavia. All the same, most of us would like to give something, and many are keen to do more than simply write a cheque.

Adam Woolf, of Crisis, the organisation which tackles the problems of homelessness, both at Christmas and throughout the year, and which is in its 25th year of operations, says: "We are al-ways overwhelmed with volunteers at this time of year, but we recruit in November. Some take umbrage when we turn them down."

Crisis organises three 24-hour Christmas shelters for the homeless in London which are open from 23 to 30 December. Along with most similar initiatives, they run an induction evening for volunteers. Anyone who misses the course will not be admitted. Liam Black, who runs the Manchester Crisis, with five centres open across the northwest over Christmas, says: "Turning up on the day is no good. If somebody turns up who is a stranger they will just

get in everybody's way."

All volunteers have to be vetted. Daphne Gore, an administrator at the St Martin's in the Field day care centre in central London, which plans a Christmas day party for 50 of its regular clients, says, "People's altruism is generally very good, but this place is a sanctuary for some people, so we have to guard them from intrusion. Neurotic people are no use. You have to be a fairly substantial person in yourself.

Charity officials are concerned that people forget the problem for the rest of the year. John Evans, the assistant director of the Edinburgh Council for the Single Homeless, says: "It's not an exaggeration to say most homeless people can pick up three Christmas dinners a day at this time of year. We have to make people realise that the homeless are with us all year."

All charities emphasise that welcome, even if hands-on help is not. Since it launched its Cold Front Appeal three weeks ago for clothes and blankets for the people in Iraq and the former Yugoslavia. Oxfam has received 1.5 million items. It expected 500.000. But Peter Smith, head of fundraising, said that money was "substantially down" on last year. "People still want to give, but cannot afford to. They donate old clothes instead. The problem

is, we need cash to be able to



Giving: Salvation Army

transport the clothes to these

Manchester Crisis has enough food, but still requires clothes and bedding. But Mr Black stresses, "We need proper stuff that's sorted and clean. Good quality coats and jumpers are appreciated, silk shirts and Bermuda shorts are

people with specific skills are also required. "Doctors and counsellors are very useful," Mr Black says. "A lot of people who have been made redundant are able to offer us their professional knowledge, which is a great

help."
There is also a demand for fundraisers. Crisis is looking for volunteers for door-to-door collections in London from now until February. "The more the better. You can't have too many people doing that," Mr Woolf says.

Margaret Kirk, of the Salvation Army, which organises Christmas lunches for old and lonely people, says that people who want to volunteer help should try contacting their local branch, whose number will be in the telephone book. "Some might need last minute help, driving people or helping wash up, but be prepared to be converted or saved."

The advice is to volunteer early next year and to remember, for the moment, that charity begins at home. Help the Aged asks for people to keep an eve on their elderly neighbours and make the effort to spend some time with

The Charity Commission also warns people to be wary about who they are giving to. They adviseanyone in doubt to ask for identification, and a Charity Commission registration number.

JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

● For details of local branches, contact: Crisis: 071-377 0489. Oxform: 272 Banbury Rd, Oxford, OX2 7DZ. Help the Aged: St James's Walk, London, ECIR OBE, Tel: 071-253 0253.

Churches await the popular Christmas eve services whose record attendances can prove to be a mixed blessing

Waiting for the midnight hour

hurches in Britain are bracing themselves for the Christmas rush. Midnight Mass, the Christmas eve holy eucharist, is the one time of the year when churches can reach thousands who otherwise would never be seen inside a church.

But priests and clergy have to perform a delicate balancing act, keeping order in line with the solemnity of the occasion while not alienating those who might have had one drink too many in the pub.

Such problems are often confined to city centres, and where they spill over into church it is the historic, traditional buildings which tend to attract the liveliest midnight Mass revellers. Five years ago. at Westminster Cathedral, one reveller picked up priceless religious reliquaries and threw them at Cardinal Basil Hume as he was celebrating Mass.

There are places with horror stories to tell." says Canon Michael Perham, precentor at Norwich Cathedral. "There have been occasions where people have had to be removed cause they clearly are the worse for wear and a nuisance to those around them."

Midnight Mass at Norwich will begin at 11.15pm. "In many churches,"

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Perham says, "some of the most regular prefer to go to church the next morning instead. Therefore, you have the rather strange feeling of a packed church, but not necessarily packed with people who know what is going on.

"It is the one occasion in the year when a great many present might be non-communicants. A lot go up to the altar not knowing what the rules are and following the crowd. But I think God deals with that rather well. Increasing numbers of churches encourage non-communicants to re-

Cathedrals can, simply by their architecture and sense of presence, overwhelm, inspire and calm an over-excited congregation. In some smaller necessary reverence in

In his latest parish magazine, the Rev Phillip Nixon, vicar of Goring, on the Thames in Oxfordshire, reminds readers about the custom of refraining from alcohol before Holy Communion. This is a gentle hint that the popular midnight Mass is more than just another celebration leading up to the secu-

lar indulgences of Christmas Dr Nixon says that worshippers at his 11.30pm midnight Mass "ought to be aware that we expect them to take it seriously, rather than treat it as just another Christmas party". He does say that midnight Mass-goers at his 12th-century Norman church are gener-

ally well-behaved, although, "there have been times when people have been a bit noisy and not known when to stop talking. Also, I think people get more out of it if their wits are not befuddled.

'I grew up in the Midlands, two-thirds of the congregation were in a quite disgraceful state. Goring is not like that." According to recent academic studies, Christmas was first

celebrated in Rome in 354, when the first Mass was the Festal Mass, at St Peter's at 9am. According to The Liturgical Year, by the German scholar, Adolph Adam, a midnight Mass was added some tained a replica of the manger.

Midnight Mass died out in
the English church after the Reformation, and was not reintroduced until the 19th century by the high churchmen of the Oxford Movement.

It remained mainly an Anglo-Catholic phenomenon until after the second world war. when it spread throughout the church and was taken up by some free churches. The traditional English convention, a Watch Night service on New Year's eve, which was not a eucharist, has as a result almost disappeared.

Christmas in central London is one of the few times when people queue to get into



Not so silent night: Christmas eve attracts a new congregation

time after the basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore was built in honour of Mary, mother of Jesus, in the fifth century. Scholars believe the service

grew out of "stations", or eucharistic assemblies, held by the Pope at three places on Christmas day. The first was at midnight at the chapel at Maria Maggiore, which con-

church. If previous years are any guide, the queue for midnight Mass at Westminster Abbey will begin to form around Parliament Square at 9.30pm. The services in the Abbey, its neighbour St Margaret's and the nearby St Matthew's, Great Peter Street, are staggered to begin at 15-

Anyone who arrives late at one is sent on to the next. The Abbey takes 2,000, St Margaret's 800 and St Matthew's several hundred. "Midnight Mass and Michaelmas are the two times when the word 'Mass' trips off the most protestant tongue." Canon Donald Gray, Rector of St Margarer's, says.

Obviously some people

have been partying before-hand, but the incidence of people who are really worse for wear is quite small," says Dr Gray, who is also chaplain to the Queen and to the Speaker of the House of Commons. This is my sixth year here and we have never had any-

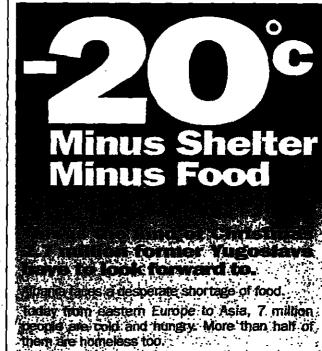
thing embarrassing at St Margaret's. If people are in a party mood, it is the right mood for the right occasion."

A growing trend in the Roman Catholic church is to bring Midnight Mass forward to 8pm, because many women and children were staying away rather than face the streets after pub closing time on Christmas eve. Fr Peter Foulkes, the

Roman Catholic priest Avenham and Frenchwood in Preston, has for the last eight years been holding church in a school hall.

"We do not get a problem of drunkenness," he says. "I would not say you should not have any alcohol, but there is a balance. You need somebody sensitive in the church to spot these people and in a nice way encourage them to go outside or not to make a disturbance."

RUTH GLEDHILL



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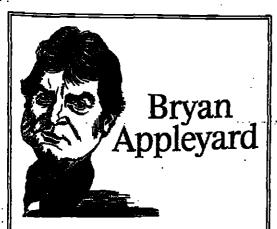
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■ It is now unnatural, eccentric and immoral not to indulge in keeping fit and thin

oanna Grenside appears to have faked her own abduction for fear of the eating and drinking she might have to do over Christmas. She is an aerobics teacher so the horrors of fatty food might be expected to loom especially large. To some being overweight is synonymous with being bad, stupid and socially

Being fit and thin is a collective psychosis that afflicted 20 to 40-year-olds in the late Sixties and has now spread to cover almost the entire human lifespan. Such virtue is attached to bodily cultivation that, in certain groups, to abstain by being fat is an irredeemable moral flaw. The marketing of the paraphernalia of fitness notably training shoes - has now abandoned the mere practicalities of the equipment in favour of the rhetoric of salvation. To be thin is to be happy; to be fit is to transcend.

The main reason for this is that, from a certain perspective, there is nothing else to do. Once the modern cult of youth superseded grace, wisdom, wit, charm, literacy and talent some time in the 1950s, then preserving the visible signs of youth became the only absolute. A cultural blackmailer had begun playing on our worst instincts: admit it, he whispered, all that stuff is fine, but this is what you want. And we admitted it like crazv. helped by the mad rationalisations of people like the jogging prophet James Fox.

"My suspicion," he wrote, "is that the effects of running are not extraordinary at all, but quite ordinary. It is the other states, all other feelings. that are peculiar, for they are an abnegation of the way you and I are intended to feel."

You are, apparently, unnatural and eccentric when you are not running or working out. Fixx, of course, died while jogging which, for some was a good joke but for him was, presumably, a complete vindication. The human weakness on which the biackmail works is the persistent feeling that things are not quite right with us. Religion and revolutionary political ideals work in the same way - dying need not be the end or things can always be better. The keep-fit cult plays upon this discontent by persuading us that our disquiet is a function of physical failure. Some survey once found that on an average day the average person feels a little worse than average. It is a simple · sleight of hand to show that this is not a predestined condition of human consciousness. but rather a corrigible flaw in the bodily

On one level this cannot work. Once the idea of a physical original sin has entered the imagination, it cannot easily be eradicated. You can diet and work out forever, but the stain endures. That way lies bulimia, anorexia, faked abductions and the frenzied exercise freak perpetually watching his body.

n another level, however, it works. Exercise provides an infallible high. It squirts endorphins and glutamine into the bloodstream, generating wild euphoria. a sensation of unencumbered lightness and invulnerability. It is similar to the madness of teenagers at a "rave", some of whom die in the early hours of the morning from dehydration after eight hours of dancing.

More than that it works as transcendence. The atmosphere of a gym is sacred. People are locked in wholesome agony in strange and terrible machines which, through digital displays, impose upon them pitiless, abstract systems. And then there is the music. Abba, U2 and Aretha Franklin never fail. I recently saw some poor woman straining hopelessly at 30 kilos on the "Pec Dec". Suddenly Aretha blasted out singing Take Another Little Piece of My Heart, the woman's eyes closed and her arms began pumping like pistons. She was like the cripple who walks under the blessing of a televangelist.

The more perceptive among you will have noticed something of a dead giveaway in the last paragraph. Yes. I go to a gym. Yes, I feel better for it. And, yes, I am trying to fight the appalling ravages of time and anticipate those of turkey. But, like the tobacco industry. I believe in moderation in all things. I have this thing under control. I have. Really.

John Habgood, Archbishop of York, considers the symbolism of kingship in the Gospels and today

ne of the topics bound to remain high on the agenda for 1993 is the notion of sovereignty. Mass-tricht will see to that. So will the continuing struggles for identity and self-determination in the Balkans and the former Soviet Union. Nearer home, questions about the relation between sovereignty and the sovereign are unlikely to disappear. Nor are some of the internal tensions within the notion of sovereignty

itself going to be resolved. In the nation state sovereignty combines a principle of inclusion — the concentration of authority and power — with a principle of exclusion — freedom from external control. It thus has much to do with the drawing of boundaries, with what divides peoples from one another and enables them to feel separate and distinctive. It also carries strong overtones from history, both secular and religious, often charged with feelings of pride or grievance. We need no reminders that, in politics, it is a highly contentious concept, hardly suitable one might suppose as a subject for a

The Crown at Christmas

ment in its meaning. Matthew's story of the three Magi contains the unusual phrase "King of the Jews". It was a phrase used only by foreigners, and elsewhere in the New Testament occurs only on the lips of Pilate, in the title over the Cross, and in the derisory shouts of the crowd.

The Magreome to the court of Herod, a supposedly powerful king yet wracked by insecurity and intrigue, and soon to demonstrate his irresponsibility and ruthlessness when he discovers the Magi have tricked him. In the midst of this unsavoury atmosphere Matthew shows us a real king, an infant totally powerless, yet heir to all the promises of God. The way he tells the story evokes strong-resonances from the ideal kingship of David, from the splen-dour of the Queen of Sheba's visit to Solomon, and from the hopes of a new messianic king in the Prophets of the Psalms. Christmas meditation.

Nevertheless in at least one of the Christmas stories the theme of sovereignty is a central ele-

tried, mocked and executed Matthew is at pains to show us that Jesus is indeed a king, but that the symbols of kingship are broken ones.

Does this complex ambiva-lent imagery have anything to offer contemporary

thinking about sov-ereignty? Perhaps it can remind us first that sovereignty is inextricably bound up with symbolism. It is as much about the way people perceive things and feel about them, as about the ways in which authority and power are actually exercised. Al-though the maintenance of law

and order, for instance, ulti-mately depends on the sanction of force, normally it relies to an enormous extent on the symbolism of a police presence. The office of president of the United States carries such huge symbolic weight that it can continue to command respect more or less

regardless of the person holding it. The fact that the president hance the symbolism, but to the outsider it seems as if the office itself is perceived as greater than either the power or the person.

Our own monarchy nowadays virtually has to rely on symbolism alone. and the potential danger in this for the future in focusing too much attention on the persons themselves is beginning to be recognised. The main thrust of the symbolism needs to be

moved back to where it properly belongs, to the sovereign as the embodiment of the unity and history of the nation under God, and as the symbolic source of authority within it. This then defines the sovereign's role as the principal safeguard against the excessive accumulation of authority by anyone else, and as the one who conveys a sense of national identity and significance to the multitude of people whose lives she touches.

This is all very different from the kind of sovereignty exercised by Herod and his like. Ruthless demonstrations of power, the destruction of symbols of national and religious identity. as has been happening in the former Yugoslav states, political structures riddled with insecurity and intrigue, are the counterexample to the kind of sovereignty asserted principally through symbolism. They show what happens when the balance tips in the direction of reliance on force. The defence of national sovereignty then becomes the rallying call in the service of which any brutality can be

itustified. A second insight from Matthew's treatment of kingship is that the symbol is a broken one, exposed to becoming an object of derision. What kind of a king is it who cannot even save himself? What kind of sover-eignty is it which allows others to break down the barriers and

set the agenda?

Clearly a nation cannot afford to carry this kind of insight too far. Yet if it is true that unrestrained nationalism can go terribly wrong, and if it is true that a large element of sovereignty is symbolic, the recognition that it is a flawed and broken symbol may be the necessary corrective to restrain. its excesses.

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Toyotas manufactured in Britain and sold in France may give a healthy boost to our economy and an equally healthy dent to our complacency. A candid recognition that nocountry in today's world can live in isolation or have total control over its own affairs, need not threaten symbols of national identity, but simply expose them as not expressing the whole truth about us.

To treat sovereignty as a broken symbol is not to deride it, still less to bury it. It is to open it up to new ways of thinking about the tension between centalised authority and national independence. T.S. Eliot wondered whether the Magi had witnessed a birth or a death in journeying to acknowledge their newfound king. The an-

How to start a world war

The West's blundering in Bosnia can

only make

matters worse

o the policy has failed. The Serbian president, Slobodan Milosevic, has not been toppled by Western pressure. The tightening of Douglas Hurd's noose has merely increased the flow of blood to his head. Washington's threat of war crimes charges against Serbian extremists predictably boosted them to a quarter of the seats in parliament. The American secretary of state, Lawrence Eagleburger, must be crassest politician in the West. The election was loaded. but nobody is claiming Mr

Milosevic really lost.
So stupid is Western policy towards Serbia that I rather think everybody is on Mr lilosevic's side. Politicians should repeat three times a day before breakfast: "Economic Sanctions Never Work". Sanctions against Serbia have done what sanctions always do: entrench those in power, breed nationalism and encourage selfsufficiency. There is no case of a wicked regime, democratic or dictatorial, being brought down by sanctions, and a dozen cases of the opposite. (I am still waiting for Saddam to be toppled by Mr Hurd's enraged, impoverished middle classes.) The West's election policy has merely made heroes of men such as Zeljko Raznatovic, whose ghoulish doings are pornographically publicised by the

Western media
Undaunted by the collapse of one ill-considered policy — the toppling of Mr Milosevic — George Bush and John Major have decided on an even more ill-considered one. It is called a no-fly zone. Mr Major unwisely identified himself with it by yesterday flying to the Adriatic. The boy-in-the-bomber-from-

the-carrier has suddenly become the Sir Galahad of the New World Order. His hightech surgical strikes can "take out" Serbian fighter-bombers (none of which have flown for



weeks, but no matter). He can flatten Serbian guns. If the guns are unsportingly moved into villages, he can flatten villages as well. Two can play the ethnic cleansing game. Watch those Serb villages burn, baby, burn That will give Mr Milosevic and his thugs a bloody nose. That will stop them trying their vile tricks on plucky Kosovo. Let's show those Serbian rapists the business end of an F-16. That is the kind of talk they like on Capitol Hill and in the New York Times. Now Mr Eagleburger can walk tall on the Georgetown dinner-circuit.

That Mr Major has felt obliged to go along with this complete change of policy - from relief to war - is wretched indeed. Mr Eagleburger has even implied that relief convoys may have to stop, lest they get in the way of his possibly less than surgical bombs. Both Cyrus

Vance and the aid organisers are appalled. Not just United Nations troops but civilian truck convoys will be regarded as hostile. (The civilian drivers are the true heroes of the relief effort at least soldiers and publicity-seeking politicians

have armoured cars.) We now have the ultimate interventionist obscenity: Sarajevans starving while Americans bomb the Bosnian countryside for the sake of prime-time footage. The policy has no sensible humanitarian goal, such as offering sanctuary to refugees. It clearly increases tension. It is that subtle shift in objective which lets weak politicians off tough decisions, but which terrifies soldiers. In this case the shift is from a delicate relief operation to fighting on one side in a civil war. An American air attack on Serbian forces will exult the hardliners

in Belgrade and suck the outside world into war.

At this point the intervention

lobby asks, "Well what would you do instead?" as if bombing Serbs was at least a comforting thought that did not overtax the brain. The only honest answer is not to do what is being done, to revert to strictly civilian relief even if that means standing outside the theatre of war. We did not become militarily involved in Ethopia when civil war was causing dreadful suffering. Likewise we are not fighting in Sudan or Armenia or Afghanistan. We generously plunge our charity into other people's conflicts but do not take on the burden of resolving them. We adhere scrupulously to the oldest maxim of charity, which is to avoid the use of force at all costs, even if force may offer a short cut to the needy. In

Bosnia, from the moment UN

troops arrived, aid workers feared, the pressure would be on to become party to the war. America now wants to fight this war on the side of the underdog. thus merely prolonging a horrific conflict. This will postpone an inevitable settlement carving up Bosnia. It will increase the chance of murderous gangs descending on Kosovo or

Macedonia. War can always be made to eem attractive in absentia. The West can put hundreds of thousands of troops into Bosnia. into Macedonia, into the Yugoslavian province of Kosovo (which means invading Serbia). The colour of their berets would not matter: to Serbs they would be the enemies of an elected leader, who would become a Slav hero. These troops would be fighting the most awful war imaginable across the mountains and passes of the Balkans,

forming shifting alliances, accused of incessant atrocities, with no clear political or mili-

This is the way much larger wars start. On Monday of last week in Helsinki the Russian foreign minister, Andrei Kozyrev, made a spoof speech. He pretended that Boris Yeltsin had been outvoted by conservatives at the Peoples' Congress. He declared that Russian imperialism was back. The vast and unemployed Russian army was summoned to aid the Serbian Slavs of the Balkans. Russia had taken too much humiliation from the West. The country was mobilising to seize back the Soviet empire.

The following day, to Mr Kozyrev's undoubted horror. Mr Yeltsin was indeed outvoted by the Congress. I was in Moscow and found nobody treating Mr Kozyrev's speech as funny anymore. A post-Yeltsin Russia may not plunge into a Balkans war, but do we want to take that risk? It could certainly use its UN veto against American air action. If America and perhaps Nato proceeded with the present escalation outside the UN, what then?

t is never easy to choose a moment in the preliminary to a senseless war to bull back and say, this may be evil but not as great an evil as we are about to unleash. When your soldiers are not yet dying and your bombs not yet slaughtering civilians, war has the best tunes. Today's "thin red line of heroes" are politicians in Saracens and reporters in flak jackets. But when the guns begin to shoot the only question will be, "Who got us into this

The American historian Francis Fukuyama, wrote last year that liberal democracy had triumphed across the globe. He appears to be changing his line. He wrote on Monday that the West must intervene to protect ethnic minorities throughout Eastern Europe, including Russians in former satellite states: "Let us hope that the West's tragic reluctance to become involved in Yugoslavia will not be repeated in the case of the former Soviet Union." What a prospect. Yet this is the voice of the new interventionism, a crusader summoning the West to try its hand at a third world war. In 1990 we thought we had averted that horror. There are times when history must die

Master race hots up

FOR THOSE looking to take that crucial last step on the career ladder, the festive season could be an anxious time. No less than four Cambridge colleges — Clare, Selwyn, Corpus Christi and Peterhouse — are currently looking for masters while a fifth. Wolfson, still needs a president to replace Professor David Williams.

Such posts are among the most sought-after in what is still loosely termed academia, not least because they bring with them tenancy of a handsome master's lodge and invitations to the best tables in town. With five up for grabs at once, talk in the university is of little else.

Strong favourite for one of the posts is John Tusa, the retiring head of the BBC World Service. Tusa, who studied history at Trinity College, Cambridge, is well connected in the arts and political world, and is being closely linked to the Wolfson job, along with Lord Wilson, the former governor of Hong Kong.

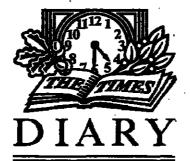
Perhaps inevitably, much speculation is focused on Germaine Greer, author of The Female Eunuch and The Change, who was narrowly beaten in January in her

attempt to become Master of who lectures part-time at Newnham, will not have endeared herself to the Cambridge establishment with her response to defeat. "I am relieved - who would want to be mistress of the dullest college in

Kenneth Baker, in the political wilderness since he left the cabinet. is a possible contender. Another former cabinet minister, Lord St John of Fawsley, is Master of Emmanuel.

Peterhouse, one of the most colourful of all Cambridge colleges and the model for Tom Sharpe's Porterhouse Blue, is having most difficulty. The college is a former Thatcherite stronghold, but with the balance of power shifting, a suitable candidate is yet to emerge. With a Thatcherite cabal determined to win the day. Sir Alan Walters, Baroness Thatcher's former economic adviser, Professor Patrick Minford, the monetarist economist, and Roger Scruton, the former Professor of Aesthetics at Birkbeck College, have emerged as

likely contenders. One Peterhouse grandee, ap-



palled at the prospect of such hardline candidates, says: "The danger is that someone like Alan Walters will get the post because dons will have become tired of discussing the candidates."

Scruton, a former research fellow of Peterhouse, was flattered at the prospect. "Anyone would be interested. But I will not be offered the post. I am too anti-establishment. Alan Walters has a handle to his name and he could give the college an 'in' with the powers that be." But, if Porterhouse Blue is any guide, Paul Swann, the chief porter at Peterhouse, is your man.

Suet success

WITH only one full shopping day left until the 25th, the final shots are being fired in the exclusive war apart. Fortnum and Mason this

of the Christmas pudding. For the past five years, makers of the more up-market suet creations have targeted their market through

the quality press, radio and tele-vision. This Christmas, as last, the outright victor is Anton Mosimann, whose £8.99 version has sold more than 25,000 and has proved so popular that his aides re-portedly had to make an extra batch of 1,500 last week to satisfy

Despite the quantity of that sale, however. Christmas gourmets suggest that the pudding made by Joyce Molyneux from The Carved Angel, the renowned seaside eaterie in Dartmouth, is that bit better. Certainly Sally Clarke, the Kensington restaurateur, has taken her pudding this year, as has Sonny's restaurant in Barnes and the David Mellor kitchen shops. The £9.95 pudding has sold a mere 1.000 in London but Molyneux remains hopeful for the battles ahead: "I wonder whether Mosimann's recipe is still the same, or whether it has less suct?" she asks. She is right, it does, say Mosimann insiders. But Molyneux is not convinced it's a cut for the better. "I think people are perhaps willing to go for very high cholesterol once a year." Cholesterol

demand.

Alice and the palace

ONE OF Britain's best-paid nonagenarians celebrates her birthday on Christmas day. Princess Alice, who received £87,000 from the Civil List this year, will be 91. The princess, who wrote her memoirs ten years ago, performed about 50 official functions this year, which means she averages about £1.740 an appearance: Princess Alice, who describes herself as "a kind of prebeatnik", was part of the Happy Valley

set in Kenya before marrying Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester, third son of King George V. The third daughter of the 7th Duke of Buccleuch, Princess Alice was given sound advice by her father, who told her to learn how to make lamp shades in case she fell on hard times in later life. The advice may yet come in useful. She is one member of the royal family who is likely to find herself eradicated from the newly pared Civil List.

year wins the price stakes with its 4lb pudding, a mere £16.95.

Street wise

THE RECESSION is now so bad that the prospect of bank managers homeless and on the streets is a real one. Tony Rogers, for instance, the chief executive of Standard Chartered's Malaysian business, is facing the prospect for the second time in three years.

Rogers's problem, however, is



the house for £20 million.

is now seeking alternative accommodation and Standard is hoping he will make it a hat trick.

 There is barely an area of British life which is unaffected by the recession it seems, including traditional Christmas pantomime. The Hull Truck Theatre Company is employing a novel marketing technique for its run of Gargling with Jelly by Brian Patten.

The theatre company has recruit-ed 240 local milkmen to deliver leastes to local families along with their daily pintas. Asked whether the technique had worked, a spokeswoman for the theatre com-pany said: "We've had a lot of





IN HARNESS

The EC's two ambassadors will be too busy to squabble

Maastricht has been an unnecessary and damaging distraction for the European Community. The past two years have been taken up with minute introspection, while outside the Community momentous events were taking place. The Gatt round has to be resolved, the former communist countries of Europe need to be brought into the fold of Western European trade and, most urgently, the ethnic tension in ex-Yugoslavia must somehow be contained.

Thus the most important appointments Jacques Delors made yesterday in his reshuffle of portfolios in the European Commission were to ask two men to share the post of external affairs. Will Sir Leon Brittan and Hans van den Broek, who will represent the EC in its relations with the outside world, be able to work as a team? The worry is that the two will bicker while these vital problems remain unresolved.

Trade negotiations are among the Commission's broadest powers: its officials bargain on behalf of the 12 member governments, whose ministers are confined only to setting a framework and then approving or refusing the final result. Splitting the Commission's top external affairs job into two parts and then sharing it between two of the largest and hungriest beasts of the Brussels jungle, Mr van den Broek and Sir Leon, might seem to presage dangerous internal divisions.

Yet they may not materialise. The task of representing the Community outside its own borders is now so huge that spreading it between more than one commissioner was inevitable. The possibilities of infighting between Mr van den Broek and Sir Leon cannot be ruled out.

But both men are shrewd and experienced enough to know that if they co-operate, they will be the most influential pair of commissioners after the president himself and a formidable counterweight to the power that M Delors has managed to build up in the Community's labrynthine system.

Sir Leon can concentrate on two challenges. The Gatt talks require political skill inside the Commission and negotiating skill in Geneva. Sir Leon will also be the steward of around £2 billion of aid each year to eastern Europe and the ex-Soviet Union. He has to make sense of an EC aid and trade policy which gives with one hand and takes away with the other: money is pumped into renascent economies which find their exports blocked at the Community's frontiers. Britain's senior commissioner has his opportunity to show that the EC intends to end the mean-minded introversion which it has shown to the other half of Europe.

Mr van den Broek, above all, is an unabashed Atlanticist who once thought of running for the secretary-generalship of Nato. M Delors has relinquished the sensitive question of developing the EC's "common foreign and security policy" to a man who is one of the least likely in Europe to rip apart the frayed fabric of the alliance between America and Europe. Mr van den Broek, at the Maastricht treaty negotiations, told British ministers to stand up to M Delors' harebrained schemes for setting the

EC up as a superpower rival to the US. Mr van den Broek therefore has a welldefined task that may well run through to the next Commission, which is due to take office in only two years' time. He has to frame the answer to the hard question posed by the daily sequence of ghastly images from the Balkans: what, if anything, can Europe do? Since events have made brutally plain that the EC is inacapable of doing anything useful on its own, Mr van den Broek can only solve the dilemma by building bridges with other organisations. Few people are better qualified to wade in the alphabet soup of the CSCE, WEU and Nato and to rescue something useful for the future.

STOP MOTORWAY MAYHEM

Murderous speeding should be a criminal offence

The shocking death toll on the roads and motorways in the past two days has shown that the nation's driving habits are still marred by a stubborn recklessness. As fog and frost set in, police warned motorists to slow down and listen to weather warnings advice so obvious it should not have to be spelt out. Yet the Automobile Association reported that Monday was its busiest day on record, as more than 7,000 drivers who were stranded or involved in accidents called in for assistance. The grim spectacle of pile-ups involving dozens of vehicles and as many casualties suggested an almost wilful ir-

responsibility at work. Ouite opposite conclusions can be drawn from the drink-driving statistics released yesterday by the Association of Chief Police Officers. The new figures, broadly similar to last year's, confirm the radical change in public attitudes over the last decade towards a practice that was once regarded as a mere peccadillo. The number of fatal accidents involving drunk drivers has halved since 1982, as the 14-year old official campaign has bitten deep into the public conscience. According to a Gallup poll published earlier this year, more than 80 per cent of people said that government advertising had made an impact upon them.

Yesterday's police statistics are testimony to the power of properly focused public education. In particular, the figures support

the case for the transport department's newest and most graphic advertisement which shows the moribund face of a young girl hit by a drunken driver.

The government must now translate its propaganda coup further afield: Speeding remains a national pastime: the temptations of the open motorway are to middle-class drivers what joy-riding is to the inner-city unemployed. According to a recent Scottish Office survey, more than 50 per cent of motorists still regard speeding as a minor offence - an absurdly relaxed attitude.

John MacGregor, the transport secretary, has already allotted £50 million of the 1993-4 roads package to safety projects. He should ensure that money is set aside for an advertising campaign next year to prevent a repetition of the mayhem on the motorways. In part, the public needs to know what precautions to take when conditions are treacherous. Equally, they must be reminded of the potentially ghastly consequences if they ignore such advice. Shock images may be tasteless, but they are effective.

But there will be no significant change in driving practice until police forces are given the power to make advisory speed limits compulsory. Such restrictions would be triggered by weather conditions and set regionally by chief police officers, who would then be legally responsible for clear signposting of the change.

DUTY BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Christmas Past: a series on the unchanging face of the season. Four: From The Times of December 20, 1935

Now comes the testing time in the great Christmas campaign. The first few days of shopping were enlivening and easy. We were ushered into new-built Palaces of Art and Aladdin's Caves. We were given lectures - and rides, if we wished - on electric railways; exhibitions of model cranes that would lift an umbrella to the ceiling: demonstrations by bemused model elephants and precocious dolls. Altogether we were entertained at as lively a Christmas party as we may hope to enjoy this season. The spirit in which Christmas shopping should be done was brisk within us.

"Not the little prize Turkey; the big one. ... Go and buy it." Scrooge himself was hardly more impulsive or more generous. Or perhaps, in strict truth, our mood was more like that of PEPYS, as he "stopped and dropped money at five or six places, all the willinger because it was Christmas." These high standards were our guides, and until now there has been no difficulty in playing up to them.

Bare patches, however, are beginning to appear on the stalls that seemed inexhaustible. There have been disappointments for newcomers. Santa Claus's sack is finite after all. The lumbering elephant has gone and cannot be replaced. The shelves of slippers begin to show long gaps, like the rows of shoes along an hotel corridor our of the season. Only the more splendid of the socks remain on many counters. The task of hanging presents on the branches of the family tree becomes more and more formidable. Forgotten boughs are suddenly remembered, calling for fresh forays, and the mood is in danger of becoming almost as that of the captives hanging their harps on

sung the most loudly on the glories of Christmas - led by PEPYS, "with a heart full of true joy" — should now leave the privilege of shopping mainly to their wives and daughters. In the old days the Christmas season was never thought to have begun until the master of the household had come home laden with the pick of the market. He may now plead that he has other work to do, and that modern shopping demands a technique that only practice can make perfect. Having refused to meddle with it for eleven months of the year, what kind of a mess would he not make by plunging in alone at the height of the campaign? Shopping to man is a thing apart. Tis woman's - perhaps not whole existence - but at least a sufficiently great part of it to give any shopping expedition a delight as of the chase. A zeal which can

inspire: Six consecutive weeks without stopping In one continuous round of shopping is likely to be spurred only to greater efforts at the challenge of the piled counters before Christmas. Therefore the men's reluctance to visit more than the toy stalls has hitherto been wise. But now perhaps comes their opportunity for bolder ventures. Many names still remain to be crossed off the list of those who shall receive presents. The shops have announced that they will stay open until late in the evening. Shock tactics are required and quick decisions. It is said that men are difficult to choose for. Let them prove that they can at least choose for others. while the advance guard - who have stormed the defences and carried off much of the spoils - take a well-earned rest. To the faint heart who hesitates DICKENS once more gives encouragement "It's impossible to carry that to Camden Town. Take a cab."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Editors on the freedom of the press

From the Chairman of the Association of British Editors

Sir, Lord Marsh (letter, December 21) is wrong and, given the position he once held as chairman of the News-paper Publishers' Association, dangerously wrong. To suggest, as he does, that those who work for the media do so for no other purpose than to make money for the owners ignores what is in fact their more significant job. which is to provide a free flow of information on every topic that is important or of interest to their readers, viewers or listeners.

On this depends the effective operation of a democratic society, and attempts to put further restraints on freedom of information must be as resolutely opposed now as they have been in the past.

Clive Soley's Bill, for all its apparent good intent, would apply a very tight tourniquet on the flow of news and information by putting much of its control in the hands of a governmentappointed body. Armed by Parament with legal powers, it would in effect be in a position to decide what newspapers should or should not publish, and is thus the thin end of a large wedge of censorship, of which the next logical step would be the licensing of approved publications and the banning of the others.

At the same time we in the media

must accept that Mr Soley is responding to parliamentary concern at some excessive behaviour by some of us. The problem with the proposed solution, and with other ideas such as the introduction of a privacy law, is that they are heavy-handed and likely to tip the balance towards more secrecy and away from the right to know.

When the size of the media is taken into account, and the amount of reporting that is done from hour to hour and day to day, the incidence of bad conduct is very small. The number of complaints has declined since the introduction of a code of practice, which sets out the professional and ethical standards journalists are required to follow when going about their business, and the creation of the Press Complaints Commission, whose task is to monitor our behaviour.

Of course there have been transgressions, and no one is defending them. But the code - the first the press has ever had — and the commission are still in their infancy. We should not be put in chains before being given time to make them work, nor should journalists be stopped which is to report as accurately as possible on what's going on.

Yours faithfully, JAMES BISHOP (Chairman. Association of British Editors), 20 Upper Ground, SE1.

From the Editor of the Hampstead & Highgate Express

Sir. Lord Marsh takes a dangerously totalitarian and tainted view of

Israeli actions

From Dr John Slome

From Mr Roland Castro

Sir, The Reverend Robin Ray's letter (December 19) asks if Israeli removal of a significant number of native inhabitants from territory it controls is "ethnic deansing". Of course it is. Perhaps if Israel undertook "ethnic predicament. Yours faithfully, ROLAND CASTRO. cleansing" to the same degree as exists in other Middle East states, there

might be peace in the area. Jews are forbidden not only to live in Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (their absence being a result of earlier "ethnic cleansing"), but also to enter into these countries for any reason.

We should not forget that in order to keep Saudi Arabia "ethnically" clean during the Gulf war. Western military forces felt it diplomatic not to hold "church" services.

Yours faithfully, JOHN SLOME, The Clinic, 146 Walm Lane, NW2.

December 21.

From Lord Mayhew Sir, The Reverend Robin Ray has a point. But of course the major ethnic cleansing in Palestine took place in 1948 and 1967, when some one and a half million people were driven from their homes, spurred on, at the beginning, by atrocities such as the

Deir Yassin massacre of 1948. Unlike the Bosnian Serbs, the Israeli ethnic deansers were invaders rather than inhabitants. Whether this makes their crime more dreadful or less I find it hard to say.

Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER MAYHEW. House of Lords. December 20.

Religion guide

From the Reverend Dr I. M. Ellis

Sir, Ruth Gledhill's "good religion guide" series (Weekend section), with is star-rated sermons, liturgies, music etc., is intriguing, but, sadly, I believe it is also fundamentally flawed. The flaw is the all-pervading suggestion that religion is another "consumer"

Yours faithfully, IAN M. ELLIS, The Rectory, 89 Mullavilly Road, Tandragee, Co. Armagh. December 19.

democracy, accepting censorship as

inherent. Duty means performing a task for moral or legal reasons: it makes the case for journalists to pursue the truth in all its guises, though not necessarily by any means.

On that score, some journalists, myself included, seek reforms in the law of trespass and controls on electronically gathered information, though it is hard to do the latter when obscene material, accepted to be llegal in British law, can be beamed in by satellite.

Parliament's duty is to be a check on the executive and to reveal its short-comings, something it is not very good at as our party system produces too many ineffectual MPs. The press's duty reflects and enhances that, exposing the blatant lies and corrosive secrecy we have witnessed, for example, in recent months.

What Lord Marsh highlights is the need for a written constitution with accepted rights for all, including freedom of the press and freedom of expression, which too often get con-

Yours sincerely, GERALD ISAAMAN, Editor, Hampstead & Highgate Express, Mariborough House, 179-189 Finchley Road, NW3.

From the Editor of the Evening Standard

Sir, Lord Marsh says the only duty journalists have is "to provide the owners with an acceptable return on their investment". There are those who argue that the only reason anyone wishes to be a member of Parliament is because they wish to pick up a fat salary cheque without the

need for real work. There are those who argue that members of any Cabinet are obligated, not to the public, but to the overwhelming sense of their own selfimportance. Fortunately some of us refuse to believe it.

Of course members of Parliament from time to time need to adjust their opinions for the good of the party. Of course newspapermen are sometimes obliged to bear in mind circulation. Despite this, what continues to amaze me is both how many politicians remain honest to the cause which first brought them into Parliament and how many journalists, despite temptations to the contrary, continue to crusade on the public's behalf.

Those newspapermen whom Lord Marsh describes as being interested return" on their proprietors' investments will ultimately fail, as will their THE STATISTICS OF THE STATE OF

As in politics, so in journalism -- the cynic will be found out in the end. The public is simply too sensible to have it any other way.

Yours faithfully. STEWART STEVEN, Editor, Evening Standard. Northcliffe House 2 Derry Street, Kensington, W8.

Industrial parallels

Sir, There are many parallels between the plight of our miners and that of French farmers. Maybe we should be more sympathetic towards France's

3 Chester Close, Chester Street, SW1.

Legal aid offer From the President of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers

Sir, The "snub" delivered by the Lord Chancellor to the offer by the Bar Council and the Law Society to accept a freeze in legal-aid pay rates (report, December 18) again raises fears that the proposed cuts have a social as well as a financial motivation.

I hope that these fears are not justified. The best way of proving that would be for the government to examine seriously suggestions for costs saving, such as that put forward by the Bar Council and the Law Society with a view to making savings or finding "new" money for legal aid. My association over a year ago

pointed out that in personal injury cases, while most defendants are corporate bodies who could recoup the VAT paid on legal services and claim tax allowances, plaintiffs could

We suggested that this matter should be examined to see whether, by removing that right and so creating equality between the parties. additional funds could be made available for legal aid. As far as I

Mayhew on Ireland

From Mr David McCarthy Brown

Sir, Your Ireland correspondent informs us (report, December 17) that on December 16 the Northern Ireland secretary. Sir Patrick Mayhew, described the aspiration towards the Irish unification as being no less legitimate than unionism.

Other than within the framework of a re-united British Isles, it is hard to see how this can be so.

Arguably, even in the absence of any recourse to actual violence, those who seek to subvert some one million of Her Majesty's loyal subjects from their allegiance within the realm, and

From Mr J. D. Porter

Sir, Conor Cruise O'Brien ("Blundering into Bosnia". December 15) refers to "rolling back the Serbs out of Bosnia". A little later he says that if "the Serbs were driven out of Bosnia the invading forces ... would have to remain in Bosnia indefinitely, to ensure that the Serbs did not come

My understanding is that the population of Bosnia-Herzegovina is split roughly one third Serb, one third Muslim and one third Croatian. As to territory, the Serbs have historically always occupied considerably more than one third of the country by reason of the fact that they are largely agrarian and the Muslims are the town and city dwellers.

The native Bosnian-Serbs have as much right as the other two groups to remain in their own country. What needs to be stopped is the persistent aggression by any of the groups and the supply of arms to them by outside

Yours sincerely. J. D. PORTER, Flat 11, Grandcourt, King Edward's Parade, Eastbourne, East Sussex. December 18.

From Mr Yugo Kovach

Sir, You state that "the Serbs must be stopped" (leading article, "Time to act", December 17). Yet Lord Owen, a most unlikely Serbophile, acknowledges their readiness to negotiate. The Bosnian Serbs, in fact, have wanted to do so for months, ever since they had established a defendable perimeter around their ethnic areas. In contrast, the Muslim Slav-dominated presidency wants international intervention; hence it has not been willing to negotiate and has had no interest in upholding ceasefires.

You refer to "the cynical deceit of the Belgrade government and their placemen in Bosnia". The truth is that the democratic election which legitimised Izetbegovic's leadership of the Bosnian Muslims also legitimised Karadzic's leadership of Bosnia's

As for deceit, it is a matter of record that the Muslim Slav-dominated presidency reneged, needless to say only after international recognition had been granted, on the agreement reached with the Bosnian Serbs and Croats under EC chairmanship to ethnically divide Bosnia. Note that the Bosnian Serbs resorted to arms only after it had become apparent that the international community was condoning the presidency's deceitful

You worry that the Serb use of helicopters (including casualty evacu-

Drinkers who smoke From Mr F. P. Taylor

Sir, Your report (December 17) from the British Psychological Society meeting that three glasses of wine or one and a half pints of beer a day help to ward off the common cold is misleading. Dr Andrew Smith's research at the University of Wales clearly shows this improved resistance is confined to non-smokers. Those who smoke show no benefit from a

modicum of alcohol. Yours faithfully, F. P. TAYLOR,

7 Kingsway, Frodsham, Cheshire. December 17.

know, no consideration has been given to this suggestion. It is also particularly important to look at the overall funding facts with regard to

legally aided personal injury work. Something like 80 per cent to 90 per cent of the Legal Aid Board's outlay is recovered as a result of the successful conclusion of cases. If fewer cases are brought, as they inevitably will be under the new eligibility rules, the Treasury will lose money because of the new "clawback" provisions under which the DSS recovers its

outlay on benefits in cases where compensation is recovered. A significant part of the increase in legal aid is attributable to increases in VAT and court costs. Ironically, county court fees were put up, some by as much as three times, on the very day that the cuts were announced.

Is it not time that a proper accounting took place instead of this blind response to financial pressures. resulting in the poorest and weakest being deprived of their rights?

Yours faithfully, J. MELVILLE WILLIAMS (President, Association of Personal İnjury Lawyers), 15 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

who favour the annexation of part of

the kingdom by a neighbouring republic, could be guilty of sedition.

At any rate, it is sheer political illiteracy (and, as we have seen, a recipe for near-anarchy) to start treating such subversion as a "legitimate aspiration". It can hardly be than at least, not within the context of this United Kingdom. Perhaps, as a mere former attorney-general. Sir Patrick cannot reasonably be expected to have grasped such legal fun-damentals of political life.

Yours faithfully, DAVID McCARTHY BROWN, Mole End, Burcot, Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

Serbs and the continuing violence

ation?) will undermine the authority of the UN. On the contrary, the rea threat to the UN is the international community's plan to divide Yugo-slavia into six statelets, along Tito's federal administrative lines. It will patently not work.

What is emerging is a Bosnia which will comprise a three-sided loose confederation or, even worse, be subject to a UN mandate similar to the British one in Palestine; an ethnically based Croatia, incorporating an embittered autonomous Serb Krajina; a Macedonia federalised into Macedonian Slav and Albanian units; and a Montenegro with three constituent nations.

As for Serbia proper, heaven knows what kind of constitutional maze would satisfy the international com-munity. Authority based on the concept of infallibility is indeed worri-

Yours faithfully. YUGO KOVACH. 38 Lebanon Park, Twickenham, Middlesex. December 17.

From Mr T. A. Payne

Sir, As the husband of a Bosnian Serb, and as a former member of the British-Yugoslav Society, my despair at reading Richard Beeston's article, "Rape and revenge" (December 17), on sexual abuse by Serbs against Muslim women is deepened by the fact that I am generally sympathetic to the Serbian cause. My support rests upon the fact that only moderate Serbs still uphold the ideal of a Yugoslavia that is far more homogeneous than our press and political

establishments would have us believe. Those who commit such atrocities, whether they are Serbs, Croats or Muslims, not only rape women and children, but also defile the concept of Yugoslavia — the only real guarantee of peace and freedom in the Balkans.

Yours faithfully, TERRY PAYNE. 5 Kenilworth Court, Penge, SE20.

From Mr Angus Duncan

Sir. What will the prime minister achieve by going to Bosnia (leading article, December 22)? A great photoopportunity for him but for the soldiers only hindrance in carrying out their duties. VIPs think that they boost morale when visiting troops but my experience when in the army was at more could be done with time and good food and drink.

Yours faithfully ANGUS DUNCAN, 53 Dagnan Road, Balham, SW12. December 22.

Season's greetings

From Mrs J. Williams Sir, In former years Christmas cards could be posted at a cheaper rate if the flaps of envelopes were tucked in,

rather than sealed. Now, paying the

full rate, if we reverted to this sensible

habit the envelopes could be re-used and trees saved. Yours faithfully, JOYCE WILLIAMS, 67 Buttermere Court.

Boundary Road, NW8. December 11.

From Mrs Annabel Geddes Sir. Being rather short-sighted. I inadvertently posted a number of letters the other day with 1p stamps on them. I had mistaken them for first-class stamps and was in a hurry. They all arrived at their destinations next day, and no extra postage was charged.

Yours faithfully. ANNABEL GEDDES. 59e Harcourt Terrace, SW10.

December 14. From Mr John Cutress

Sir. Mrs Tingey's criticism of the Central Office of Information's Spanish (letter, December 23) is not entirely justified. At my Spanish evening classes, where I am twice as old as any other student, my Spanish teacher (who is Spanish) assured me that I was correct in saying to her "Felices Pascuas" as it means Easter and Christmas plus the Feast of the Kings (Epiphany) and can best be translated as "Season's Greetings".

Yours sincerely. JOHN CUTRESS. 69 The Droveway, Hove, East Sussex. December 22.

Mummy's molars

From Dr H. G. Muller

Sir, You report (December 21) the Xray examination of an Egyptian mummy, Jeni, and claim that the fact that her teeth were not ground down by millstone grit is evidence of her youth. Wooden pestle and mortar mills were common in ancient Egypt.

Yours faithfully, H. G. MULLER, 10 Tredgold Crescent, Bramhope, Leeds, West Yorkshire.

Business letters, page 19

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

and the second

strange willows. It seems odd that men, who have always TO THE STATE OF TH



COURT CIRCULAR

Mother.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE December 22: The Duke of York this morning visited RMS St Helena at Queen Alexandra Dock, Cardiff Docks, Cardiff, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for South Glamorgan (Captain Norman Lloyd-Edwards).

Captain Neil Blair RN was in attendance. **CLARENCE HOUSE** December 22: The Lady An

Birthdays today

The Emperor of Japan celebrates his birthday today. Mr Michele Alboreto, racing driver, 36: the Earl of Balfour, 67: Lord Bancroft, 70; Sir Norman Biggs, banker, 85; Lord Blake, 76; Vice-Admiral Sir Stephen Cartill, 90; Professor Sir Theo Crawford, pathologist, 81; Mr Peter Davis, chairman and chief executive, Reed International, 51; Mr Maurice Denham, actor, 83: Sir Colin Fielding, civil servant, 66; Mr Yousuf Karsh, photographer, 84; Mr Graham Kelly, chief executive, Football Association, 47. Professor Peter Lachmann, president, Royal College of Pathologists, 61; Mr Christopher Lawrence, silversmith, 56; Brigadier Sir Geoffrey Macnab, 93; Miss J.M. Quennell, former MP, 69; Mr Ashley Raeburn, former chairman, Boosey and Hawkes, 74; Herr Helmut Schmidt, former chancellor, Fed-

Reception

A reception in memory of Carl Heinz Goldman will be held at the Royal College of Physicians in London, on Tuesday, 2 February 1993. Further details from Berthe Goldman or a member of the family.

eral Republic of Germany, 74; Mr

Christopher Turner, former head

master, Stowe School, 63; Mr R.S.

Unwin, publisher, 67; the Marquess of Winchester, 51.

KENSINGTON PALACE December 22: The Prince of Wales this evening attended a

Dinner with Mr and Mrs Vaclar Havel in Prague. Mr Peter Westmacott was in attendance.

gela Oswald has succeeded

Dame Frances Campbell-

Preston as Lady-in-Waiting to

Oueen Elizabeth The Queen

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Martin Opitz, poet, Bunzlau, Silesia, 1597; James Gibbs, architect, Aberdeen, 1682; Sir Richard Arkwright, inventor, Preston, 1732; Sir Martin Archer Shee, painter, Dublin, 1770; Jean Francois Champollion, Egyptologist, Figeac, France, 1790; Joseph Smith, founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Mormons), Sharon, Vermont, 1805; Samuel Smiles, author of Self Help, Haddington, Lothian, 1812; Vladimir Ivanovich Nemirovich-Danchenko, theatre director, novelist and playwright, Ozurgety, Georgia, 1858; Sir Hugh Allen, musician, Reading, 1869; J. Arthur Rank, 1st Baron Rank, industrialist and film magnate, Hull, 1888.

DEATHS: Michael Drayton. poet London, 1631; John Cotton, Puritan clergyman (the Patriarch of New England), Boston, 1652; Thomas Robert Malibus, economist, Bath, 1834; Hugh Miller, geologist, committed stricide, 1865; Alexandre Gustave Eiffel, builder of the tower bearing his name, Paris, 1923; Anthony Herman Fokker, aircraft pioneer, New York, 1939; Edward Frederick Lindley Wood, 1st Earl of Halifax, statesman, Viceroy of India 1926-31, Garrowby, Yorkshire, 1959. HMS Bounty, commanded by William Bligh, set sail for the

South Seas, 1787. Joseph Hansom patented a type of cab, 1834.

Latest wills

Admiral Sir David John Hallifax, of Englefield, Berkshire, Constable and Governor of Windsor Castle, and Chief of Staff to Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, Commander-in-Chief Fleet, left estate valued at £195,944 net.

Mr Charles Austen Impey, of Blandford Forum, Dorset, a housemaster at Eton 1965-80 and General List Secretary there, left estate valued at £480,809 ner. He left the portrait of his grandfather Edward Impey, presently at Wal-pole House, Eton, to Eton College, and one case of wine from his collection to the Eton College Wine

Other estates include (net, before Mrs Violet Mary Briggs, of Cornhill on Tweed, North-

Norfolk £932,232

Mr John Richard BergneCoupland, of Skellingthorpe,
Lines £697,477 Norfolk ..

In your teaching you must

Mr Leslie Donald Berry, of Ashby de la Zouch, Leics £1,304,110 Mr Harold Henry Bird, of Melksham, Wilts Mr Kenneth Burrell, of Chelmsford, Essex.... Vida John Clarke, of Sutton Cold-field, West Midlands £598.897 Mrs Valerie Mary Felstead, of Whitefield, Greater Manchester

£616,994 Mr Terence Desmond Han Knipton, Leics... £571,303 Mr Gordon Revell Harm Bognor Regis, West Sussex E974,781

Mr Harman Stephenson Healy, of Southampton Row, London£587,095 Mr Bruce Eric Karter, of Kingston upon Thames, southwest London £769.837 Mrs Irene Maud Moore, of Old Heathfield, East Sussex £1.722.894



Bright future: Mark Sparrow, supervisor of the Temperate House at the Royal Botanic Gardens. Kew, with a rare yellow variant of the bird-of-paradise flower, Strelitzia reginae, which has bloomed for the first time outside South Africa. In its normal form the strelitzia is a bright orange and blue (Michael Hornsby writes). Three specimens of the variant, named Kirstenbosch Gold, were brought to Britain from South Africa in October last year and planted in the Temperate House this spring. They flowered last week, mid-summer in the

Mr Sparrow, whose Temperate House contains

about 2,000 plant species, said: "The plants are about 2ft tall now and will eventually reach 4ft or more. We expect them to stay in flower for two or three weeks.'

Similar rare yellow forms of Strelitzia reginae crop up from time to time naturally in botanic gardens. The last time one was seen at Kew was in 1914. That plant, also a gift from South Africa, died and Kew had been unable to obtain a replacement until last year.

The new variant takes its name from the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden in Cape Town. It is the product of a 10-year breeding

The engagement is announced between Alec, son of Mr and Mrs

James Russell, of Hartley Wespall,

Hampshire, and Sophie, younger daughter of Mr Michael Eagar, of

Knutsford, Cheshire, and the late

the engagement is announced between Hugh, second son of Mr and Mrs Michael Sayer, of Whitchurch-on-Thames, Oxford-

shire, and Sophie, younger daugh-ter of Dr and Mrs John Robson, of

ern Australia, between Neil, son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Sutcliffe,

of Garth, Wills Grove, London,

NW7, and Annie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Dring, of Carnamah, Western Australia. The Wedding will take place in Perth, January 1994.

Mrs Frances Eagar. Mr H.E.F. Sayer and Miss S.L. Robson

Mr N. Sutcliffe

programme during which botanists finally achieved a plant with rich golden flowers. Strelitzia reginae, also known as the crane flower because the petals look like the crest on a bird's head, is native only to the southern and eastern parts of Cape Province amd northern Natal in South Africa, where it grows wild on river banks and in scrub clearings along the coast. The plant was first introduced to Britain in 1773 by Sir Joseph Banks, then unofficial director of the Royal Gardens at Kew (their name at the time). He named the exotic-looking plant in honour of Queen Charlotte, wife of George III and Duchess of

Mecklenburg-Strelitz in Prossia.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P.J. Harding and Miss M.G. Williams

The engagement is announced between Roderick, second son of Mr Douglas Blyth, CMG, of Crownland Hall, Walsham-le-Wil-lows, Suffolk, and the late Mrs Gabrielle Blyth, and Natalie, el-dest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Hewins, of Homestead, Nether Shatton, Derbyshire. Mr A.H. Forsyth

Mr J.R.M. Blyth

and Miss B.N. Hewins

and Miss S.A. Wallis The engagement is announced between Hamish, son of Mr and Mrs Colin Forsyth, of

Uppingham, Rutland, and Sophie, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Andrew Wallis of Collingham, Nottinghamshire. Mr T.E.D. Gee and Miss A.K.H. Ng

The engagement is announced between Timothy Edward Daniel, younger son of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Gee, of Coton, Northamptonshire, and Anita Kau Heung, daughter of Mrs King Shun Lee Ng and the late Mr Lam Sing Ng, of Hong Kong. adron Leader A.J. Gibbóns

and Miss N.J. van der Walt The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs W.A. Gibbons, of Maidstone, Kent, and Nicolene, daughter of Mr and Mrs N.S.T. van der Walt, of Bloemfontein, South Africa.

Mr A. Jemal and Miss D.A. Gordon

The engagement is announced between Peter, younger son of Mrs Diana Harding, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, and the late Dr John Harding, and Made-The engagement is announced between Adam, son of Mr A.F. Jemal, of Cyprus, and the Duchess of Newcastle, of Bath, and Dec. daughter of Mr and Mrs A.S. leine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Tony Williams, of Kingston Hill, Payne, of Oxted, and Mr H.S. Gordon, of Hedley. MrA.C.C. Russell and Miss S.H. Eagar

Dr D.C. Hargreaves and Miss K.S. Nicholson

Sunrey.

The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mr and Mrs C.P. Hargreaves, of Learnington Spa, Warwickshire, and Kathryn, second daughter of the Rev Dr E.W. and Mrs Nicholson, of Oriel College, Oxford.

Mr J.J. Haydn-Williams and Miss F.L. Hume

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Dr and Mrs John Haydn-Williams, of Leek Wootton, Warwick, and Fiona, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Hume, of Kuala Lum-pur, and Cromford, Derbyshire.

Mr R.J. Irving and Miss P. Schjett

The engagement is announced between Robert James, son of the late John Anthony Irving and of Mrs Judith Pritchard, and stepson of Mr David Pritchard, of Abbotts Ann, Hampshire, and Penille, daughter of Mr and Mrs Firm Schjett, of Hjorring, Denmark. Mr P.M. Thomson and Miss A.K. Redwood

The engagement is announced een Lieutenant Patrick Thomson, The King's Own Scottish Borderers, eldest son of Brigadier and Mrs Michael Thomson, of Trouville, France, and Anna, el-dest daughter of Colonel Sir Peser and Lady Redwood, of Corton,

Mr B.A. Urquhart and Miss A.P. Sequeira

The engagement is announced between Bruce, son of Mr and Mrs George Urquhart, of Howick, New and, and Ana Paula, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Manuel Sequeira, of Wimbledon.

Mr G.W. Williams and Miss C.E. Collett

The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Colonel and Mrs David Williams, of Wittersham, Kent, and Clare, Collett, of Fetcham, Surrey. and Miss A. Dring
The engagement was announced
on December 18, in Perth, West-

Marriage

Mr E.W. Johnston and Miss S.R Jacobs The marriage took place on Saturday, December 19, at St Law-rence (Whitchurch), Little Stanmore, between Edward Johnston and Susan Jacobs.

LEGAL NOTICES

Ozford University prizes

The following have been awarded: Geoffrey Rhoades Commemo-rative Bursary 1992: Zofia Sabczynski, Pembroke College Gibbs Prize in Geography 1992: Felicity Callard, Heriford College Book Prizer Resignation Pages Bern Book Prizes, Benjamin Page, Pen-broke College and Timothy Paul Simmonds, Jesus College. Gibbs Prize in Modern History

garet Hall. Gibbs Prize in Law 1992: Patricia

Iohn's College Book prizes: Andrew Dickinson, St

Bath

University news

1992: Book Prizes: Rachel Lampard, Pembroke College and Richard Lofthouse, Lady Mar-

Ferguson, Hertford College, Proxime accessic Louise Davies, St

Edmund Hall, Urnesh Kumar, Balliol College and Jonathan Susciiffe, Worcester College. Gibbs Special prize in Politics 1992: Sebasian Frederick Lawson, Balliol College: Proxime accessit:

Book Prize: Lucy White, St John's College

The university court, at its annual general meeting on December 21. accepted the nomination of Sir Denys Henderson, chairman of ICI, as Chancellor. Sir Denys is the third chancellor of Bath university and succeeds Lord Kearton of Whitchurch who died in July.

Bishop of Manchester appointed

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BY RUTH GLEDHILL RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE new Bishop of Manchester will be the Right Rev Christopher Mayfield, at present Bishop of Wolverhampton.

Bishop Mayfield, aged 57. who has degrees in engineering and social policy, is from the evangelical wing of the Church of England. He will succeed the Right Rev Stanley Booth-Clibborn, who retired last month, after more than 15 years in office.

The new bishop said yesterday that the invitation to move to Manchester came as a complete surprise. He took a week to accept. "Bishops don't expect to be called to other posts once they have got into one they are enjoying." he

said. At Wolverhampton, Bishop Mayfield is a suffragan in the Lichfield diocese. He will join the Manchester diocese next Easter. It has a population of two million and covers 415 square miles through most of Greater Manchester and an area of southern Lancashire. He will head nearly 400 stipendiary clergy.

The diocese is poor in terms of per capita wealth of church members. Bishop Booth-Clibborn often criticised government policies, although he was not antagonistic or ag-gressive. He is a leading supporter of women priests.

Bishop Mayfield, who is married with three children, said he also supported women priests, although he was con-scious of the significant groups who oppose the recent deci-sion in favour of them by the general synod.

Church news

The Rev Canon Geoffrey Turner. Rector, St Andrew, Bebington and Rural Dean of Wirral North. diocese Chester, is to be Archdeacon of Chester. Appointments
The Rev Mark Altken, Rector,
The Rev Mark School (Norwich): to be

Sprowston w account.
Chaplain, Sherbotte

Sprowston w Beeston (Norwich): to be Chaplain. Sherborne Boys' School (Salisbury). The Rev Michael Beckett, Curate, Cambridge, St Barnahas: to be Priest-in-charge, Cambridge St Paul (Ely). The Rev Christopher Boyte. Assistant Curate (NSM), All Saints, Eastbourne (Chichester): to be Assistant Curate, St Mary, Uplon (Chester). The Rev Susan Brooks, Deacon, Carleton: to be Deacon-in-charge, St Michael's and St Helen's, in the Almonditury and Familey Tyas Team Parish (Wakefield). The Rev Mary Crameri, part-time Parish Deacon, Bernerion Team Ministry, and part-dime Lecturer. Salisbury and Wells Theological College (SDMTS): to be Vice-Principal, SDMTS Salisbury and Wells Theological College (Salisbury). The Rev David Fountain (Brother Maicolm SSP), non-stipendiary Minister, Handsworth St Michael (Birmingham): to be Brother Hilliele.

Minister, Handsworth St Michael (Birmingham): to be brother, Hillfeld Priary, Salisbury).

The Rev Michael Baman, Assistant curate, Christ Church, Wharton: to be Vicar, St John the Evangelist, Bugliswion (Chester).

The Rev Richard Glibings, Rector, the Priory Team Parish and Rural Dean of Birkenhead: to be also an Honorary Canon of Chester Cathedral (Chester).

The Rev Roger Grafton, Curate, St Barnabas, Dutwich (Southwark).

The Rev Michael Hawken, Priest-Incharge, St Paul's, West Ealing: to be Team Rector, Uzbridge (London).

DOMESTIC & CATERING

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PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 071 481 9313

STTUATIONS

show integrity and serious-	DEATHS
pess, and offer sound instruction to which none can take exception.	DEATHS
can take exception. Titus 2 : 7.8	<u> </u>
	BACK - Dric Hatfeld VRD.
DIDITIO	FRCP, aged 72 years, on 21st December in skilled and
BIRTHS	FRCP, aged 72 years, on 21st December in skilled and loving care at the James Paget Hospital. Gorleston. Funeral Service at St Mary and St Maryaret's Church. Norton Subcourse. Norfolk. on Tuesday 20th December.
	Funeral Service at St Mary
CORMACK - On December 21st, to Miranda (née	Norton Subcourse, Norfolk,
Brookert and Boss a	at 2 nm. Family flowers only
daughter, Camilla Luisa.	Norton Church Funds c/o
de RIVAZ - On December 17th, to Julie and Paul, a	Harvey Bros. Funeral Directors, Newgate, Kirty
son, Nicholas, a brother for Ben, Sophie and Charlotte.	Came. Bungay. Suffolk,
de St. PIERRE BUNBURY -	please to Harvey Bros. tel:
On December 9th, to Charlotte (nee Cardozo) and	(050845) 663. BEDDINGTON - Hubert Clive.
Michael a 300. Presenck	aged 74, beloved hashand of
Xavier.	Gillian and youngest son of the late Brigadier Sir Edward
GILLON - On December 12th. to Jan and Tony, a daughter.	Beddington; formerly of Anstey Hall, Hertfordshire
Rebecca, a sister for Christopher	and Paddock House.
HEATHCOTE - On 20th	Alstonfield, Derbyshire, Died in Warrandyte, Australia, on 22nd December 1992.
December, to Cindy and Richard, a daughter, Sharon	22nd December 1992.
Allsa.	December, aged 85 years, of
JACOBS - On December 21st,	BROOKS - Gwen, on 22nd December, aged 85 years, of Farnham. Widow of Gerry and mother of Jilian.
to Catherine and Richard. a daughter, Alice, a sister for Conagh, Kitty and	Caroline and George. Funeral Service at Aldershot
Oonagh, Kitty and Christopher,	Crematorium on 29th December at 10 am.
LLOYD - On December 19th.	CERNASIDES - Joseph Bonto
to Jocetyn and Simon. a daughter, Rachel Alexandra.	on 19th December in Port of
a sister for Califfin.	on 19th December in Port of Spain, aged 89, bushand of Maria Manuela and Jather of
McHARDY - On December 21st to Miranda (née Forbes-	Maria Manuela and lather of John Paul. Joseph E. Ana Maria and Luisa, doting grandfather of Thomas,
Leith) and Julian, a son. Andrew.	grandfather of Thomas,
PEARSON . On December	Matthew, Catherine, Francesca, Elenore,
21st 1992, at Newcastle General Hospital, to Enid (née Michael) and Cari. a daughter. Grace Margaret	Benjamin and Marins; one of Trinklad's pioneer
(née Michael) and Cart. a	businessmen. Funeral in Port
Evelyn.	of Spain on 23rd December.
SPERICE - On December 19th.	GRAY - On 20th December 1992, peacefully at the John
to Joseph and Angela (née Fiddes), a son, James Henry	Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, Kathleen Mary, aged 87.
Fiddes), a son. James Henry Alexander, a brother for Kitty and William.	widow of Joseph Gray.
TILLEY - On July 3rd, to	daughter of the late Charles and Kathleen Meade of Bath.
Tilley - On July 3rd. to Tracey (née Powders) and	Cremation at Oxford
Lance, a soc. Conor Harry Barton. a brother for	Crematorium at 12 noon on Thursday 31st December. No
Frances.	flowers but donations to Friends of the Elderly. The
TOMER - On December 18th, to Emma and Gerald, a son,	OM Vicarage, Moustord, i
George Alexander Thomas, a brother for Maithew.	Oxon, OX10 9JB.
WATSON - On December	GREFFITHS - On December 20th, peacefully at Castle
19th, at Queen Charlotte's, to	Grove Retirement Home.
Henrietta (née Bulterwick) and Richard, a daughter.	Commander Dennis Hugh, just before his 96th birthday.
isabelia (Tinsel). WRIGHT - On 13th December.	Beloved father of Antonia, grandfather of Errua and
to Lucy (née Cart) and lain, e	Amanda and faithful friend
daughter Daphne Sophie Ella	to many. Funeral Service at St Nicholas Church.
	Benefiterel on Manday
GOLDEN	Enguiries to Messas E White I
ANNIVERSARIES	& Son Ltd. Funeral
	Directors. 138-139 East Reach. Taunton. lel: (0823) 272183.
WHITE-WHITEHURST - On	Reach, Taunton, tel: (0823) 272183. HASTIE - On December 20th

WHITE:WHITEHURST - On December 23rd 1942 at Shrewsbury Abbey. Shropshire, Norman to Sybil. now at St Agnes. Cornwal.

A72183.

HASTIE - On December 20th
1992, peacefully at
Tunbridge Wells, Utrica
Anne Hastle, aged 88 years.
Cremation private.

BACK - Eric Hatfelid VRD.
FRCP, aged 72 years, on 21st
December in skilled and
loving care at the James
Paget Hospital. Gorieston.
Funeral Service at St Mary
and St Maryarer's Church.
Norion Subcourse. Noriols,
on Tuesday 29th December
at 2 pm. Family flowers only
but donations if desired for
Norion Church Funds c/o
Harvey Bros. Funeral
Directors. Newgate, Kirby
Came. Bungay. Suffolk,
NR355 29P. All enquiries
please to Harvey Bros. tel:
(050845) 663.
SEDDIRISTON. Hubert Cive. HESKETH - John William (Jack), on December 18th 1992, suddenly at house. Beloved husband of Jeanne. Sather of John and Smone. Stherin-law of Susan and Neil, grandad of Careth and Paul. Service at St Nicholas' Church. Siundellsands. poday Wednesday 22rd at 2.15 pm. Interment following at Thornton Carden of Rest. Flowers please to H. Lesile Humphreys. 69 Liverpool Road. Crosby, Liverpool 23. EDDINGTON - Hubert Crive, aged 74, beloved husband of agen /*. Between usename us cillian and youngest son of the late Brigadier Sir Edward Beddingston: formerly of Austey Hall, Hertfordshire and Paddock House. Alstonfield, Derbyshire, Died la Warrandyte, Australia, on 22nd December 1992. 22nd December 1992.

BEROOKS - Gwen, on 22nd
December, aged 85 years, of
Farnham. Widow of Gerry
and mother of Jilian,
Caroline and George.
Funeral Service at Aldershot
Crematorium on 29th
December at 10 am. ustorium on mber at 10 am. December at 10 am.
FERNAAIDES - Joseph Bento
on 19th December in Port of
Spain, aged 89, husband of
Maria Manuela and Letter of
John Paul. Joseph E. Ann
Maria and Luisa, doting
grandiather of Thomas.
Matthew. Catherine.
Francesca. Elemore.
Bentantin and Marines one of
Trinidad's pioneer
sustnessmen. Funcal in Port RENNEDY - On December 5th. suddenly in hospital, John Dormand, of London, much mourned by Constance. William, Roth and Heigh. Trinidad's businessmen. Funeral in Port of Spain on 23rd December. GRAY - On 20th December 1992, peacefully at the John Control of the Local Control of the William. From and Helen.

PHILIP - On December 21st
1992. peacefully in her elsep
at Chrencester aged 91. Alice
Monica Bruce (Maisis - née
Marriott). Widsw of Edward
L. Philip. Dearly loved by all
her family and many friends.
Funeral Service at St
Augustine's Church. 117
Queen's Gate. London SW7.
on Wednesday December
30th at 12 noon, followed by
private interment. Pamily
flowers only, Donations if
desired to Sight Savers.
Crosvenor Hall. Beinore
Road. Haywards Heath. W.
Sussex. Rfilid 48X. badcliffe Hospital. Oxford. Cathleen Mary. aged 87. vidow of Joseph Gray. isoghter of the late Charles daughter of the late Charles and Kathleen Meade of Bath.
Cremation at Codord Crematorium at 12 noon on Thursday 31st December. No flowers but donations to Friends of the Elderly. The Old Vicarage. Moulsford, Oxon. OX10 9JB.

DEATHS Road, Haywards Heath, W. Sussex. RH16 4BX. SUSSEX. RH16 4BX.

ROBERSON - On 21st
December 1992, peacefully
at home, John Gordon, aged
61. Much loved husband of
Josephine, son of Vera and
father of Elia and William.
Private cremation. Service of
Thanksylvine at Bures
Parist Church, Suffoli, at
2.30 pm on Wednesday 30th
December. Family flowers
only. Donalions if withed to
Bures Church. C/o A.C.
Ealon. Brockley Lodge.
Bures. COS 5EJ.

SAVILL - On December 21st at home, Betty, beloved wife of John (Jo), wonderful mother of Amanda, Beilind, and Jolyon and gramy of Thomas. Rebecca, Bertlamin and Alice. "Her ways are ways of pleasanthess and all her paths are peace." Funeral private. Thanksgiving Service at All Saints Cturch, Odtham, at 2.50 pm on Tuesday December 29th, No flowers, Oonations to Cancer Reitef, Mount Alvernia Hospital, Guildford, please. cremation. Memorial Service at Boldre Parish Church on Wednesday January 6th 1993 at 2 pm. Donations if wished for Cancer Research Campaign or Yugostavia. Relief Pund c/o Directors. 9-11 Lower Buckland Road, Lymington. Hants. SO41 9DN. YORK - On December 21st, George, peacefully at home in Shenfield. Dear husband of Jesu. father of Jeannie and Victorie. The funeral service will take place at St. Mary's Church. Shenfield. on Tuesday December 29th at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired payable to The Imperial Cancer Research Fund may be sent c/o Bennetts Lin., 120 High St., Brentwood, CM14 4AS. SiBLEY - On 21st December, after a short liness, Elizabeth Ann (née Mattingley), dearty beloved wife of Angus and sister of Susan. Requiem Mass at the Caruchite Church. Kensington Church Street. London We, at 11 am on Thesday 29th December, cremation as 12.30 pm at the West London Crematorium. Kensal Green. R.I.P. SMART - On December 21st 1992 studenty at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, Emeritus Professor Peter Alastair Marshall. Private Burial in the Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh. to be followed in the New Year by a Memorial Service. IN MEMORIAM --PRIVATE SENTALL - Leanard Hugh.
JP. died 24th December 1942. Remembered with love. appreciation and graffinde every day. Rowan.
HAYNES - Dephne. 28th December 1988. In tender-loving memory always.
Henry and funity.
PAYNE - Ken 1924,1988. WADDINGTON - On Friday December 18th 1992, peacefully in Cirencester, Anna Marie, aged 71, much loved by Richard, Dianna and Jessica, Requiem Mass, Chellenham, on Thuraday December 24th at 11.20 am, Flowers may be sent to Packer & Slade, I City Bank Road, Cirencester, bei: (U285) 653825.

PAYNE - Ken, 1924-1988. Deep. deep love forever. Tonl. Gem and FL LEGAL NOTICES WARD - On December 19th
1992, suddenly. Willind
John Francis. M.A.
Barrister at Law and Writer,
ased 51 years, beloved and
devoted husband of Jean and
father of John and Joanna,
grandfather of Jesunde.
Funeral Service at S
Thomas of Camterbury,
Cowes, 11.30an Wednesday
December 30th for family
and blanders. Flowers and
enquairies to Fi. Liond,
Pumeral Director. Bridge
Road, Cowes. Date of
Memorial Service at
Winchester to be announced
later.

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LEGAL NOTICES

CALLENGHAMS

CONSTRUCTION 1.TD.

Notice in hereby given, pursual to section 98 of the insoftwary
Act 1995, that a meeting of the 1995, that is a meeting of the 1995, that is the insoftwary with the held of the Company will be held of the Purposes mentioned in sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.

Proceeds to be used at the meeting must be lodged to inter than dans on Weinsoday the 12th January 1993 at 11 Month Park Road.

Northwood, Middle, HAG 201, at which address is for the hamps and the company's of the company's of the company's of the company and the company is of the purpose and the company is of the purpose of the Company's of the company's of the company's of the purpose of the Company's of the company of

INSCI.VENCY ACT 1986
PREMIER
BLOODSTOCK LINGTED
GROMERLY CARROLL
BLOODSTOCK LINGTED
GRAdministrative Receiverable)
Notice is betwee siven that a
meeting of the creditors of the
above ammed company will be
held under the previous of Section 48 of the hastlycency Act
1996 BY York House, 199
Westminister Bridge Road,
London BEI 70T or 4 Juguary
1995, at 11.00 am for the purpose meetings of the Could by the Section
Sel of that Act.
Creditors whose claims are
whelly sectived sive not emitted to
altered or to be resulvented at the
meeting.
Creditors who takend to volv at
the meeting should note the
following: altend or to be restrained at the meeting.
Creditors who initial to vote at the meeting should note the nonline should note the solitering and the meeting should note the solitering.

(a) Written substances of claim must be lodged with the administrative receivers by 12 noon on the day before the meeting at 2 noon on the day before the meeting at 2 noon on the day before the meeting at 2 noon on the day lotter. Young, York House, 199 Westminster Fridge Road.

London, 821 TUT.

(b) Promise for use at the meeting must also be lodged with the administrative receiver.

W M Roberts and N J Hamilton Joint Administrative Receivers Council 18 December 1992

The state of the s

THE COMPANESS ACT. 1981

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

CHORLEY COMPANY LIBERTED

- IN LICREDATIONS

OF FIRST MEXTEN

(Under the Order for Winding-Up
the above samed Company dated
the 65th days of the Marking-Up
the above samed Company dated
the 65th days of the Marking-Up
the above samed Company dated
the 65th days of the Marking-Up
the above samed Company dated
the following the Marking
of Creditors in the above suster
wall be held at the offices of
Deloins & Touche, Corner House,
Church & Partiannent Streets,
Hamilton, Bertmude on the 29th
day of January, 1995 at 11.00

o'clock in the forenous for the
purpose of determining whether
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to the Superme Court of Bertmunia
for appointing of a Lignificator or
January, 1995 at 11.00

o'clock in the forenous of the
purpose of determining whether
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to the Superme Court of Bertmunia
for appointing of a Lignificator or
January, 1995, at 11.00

Section of Courter House, Courter
at the offices of Touche Rose &
Co. 65 Crutched Prism, London
ECEN 299, Telephone (71) 955

3000, Tulestar (71) 480 6881.

Connect Mr. John Arid should
you not be able to attend persontion. To entitle, cour representation of the Streets, Hamilton,
ECEN 299, Telephone (71) 956

3000, Tulestar (71) 480 6881.

Connect Mr. John Arid should
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Co. 65 Crutched Prism, London
ECEN 299, Telephone (71) 956

3000, Tulestar (71) 480 6881.

Connect Mr. John Arid should
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Purilismath Streets, Hamilton,
Berminds not laber then Soo

o'clock in the afternoon on the
27th day of January, 1998.

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be considered for worting persones
only at this Meeting and not feet
divided purposes. The Official
Receiver

Liquidator.

2 a) By Resolution determine whether or bot an application shall be made to the Court for the appointment of a Committee of hispection to act with the Liquidator. impecificit to act water impecificit to act water impecificit to act water in the impecificit in the impecific to a constant of Malcolm Butterfield in the impecific in

THE RISOLVENCY RILLES 1986
RULE 6.124 (1)
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
OF TRUSTE?
ALAN SEDDALL
SECRETORY COUNT NO. 79 of 1992
NOTICE BI HEREBY GIVEN
inst I, Brism Lawrence Ledy
PCA of Meanr. Eline. Woods
PCA of Meanr. Eline. Woods
A Rose. Lidgra House. 220
Kisstbury Road. Line. NW9
OSS was aspeciated Trustes of
ALAN SEDDALL on 3 December
1998. SEDDALL on 3 December
1998. Size of the Richest of
prove a cisim in the Benirriptcy.
Is recurred to send me notice of
their claim in writing to the show
address. to arrive so later tien 35
January 1998. Size their claim
will be excited from any dividead which may be declared in
the Estate.
Deted this 17 day
of December 1992
System L. Lawky, Trustee

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
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CREDITORS TO CLAIM
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Queen Victoris Berest, London
Congency Number 1921 103
NOTICE IS HERRITY COVEN.
Devember 1992. Polor Harry
Residual was appointed Buildates
at the above memed company in
member's voluntary winching un
Creditors of the company who
have not atready done so should
submit their claims in writing in
me by 25 January 1993. of the
reference: PHB/DOG
Touche Ross & Co... Reference
House 20 Water Rivet.
Liverpool LE SLV.
This notice is purely formal, at
inawh claims have been or
should be paid in full.
Peter H Rendall, Liquidator.

Registered number: 1992
Former Name of Comp
Husare (UK) Limited. Natur
Business: Steel Penel Manu
turers. Trade Chestification:
Date of Appointment of J.
Administrative GORDISHLY CARROLL BIOLS-TRIES CORPORATION PLC

On Administrative Receivership
Notice is harshy system that a
meeting of the creditors of the
shows named company will be
pied under the provisions of Sec-tion 48 of the Incovency Act
1985 at York House, 199
Westmother: Reidige Road,
London SE1 7UT on 4 January
1993, at 11.00 san for the purposes mentioned in 54802 and
\$49 of that Act.
Conditions whose claims are
wholly secured any not entitled to
affect or to be represented at the
meeting. Business: Shed Pennel Manufac-turens. Trade Casselfaction: G.
Date of Appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers: 17 December 1992. Name of Person Appointing the Joint Administra-tive Receivers: Union Bank of Findand Limited, Joint Administra-tive Receivers: L. A. Manufaga S. V. Frestley of (office holder numbers: 6477 & 8291) of Buchler Phillips & Co., 34 Cros-venor Street, London W1X 915. siliend or to be represented at the specifical or to be represented to the process of the process of the meeting about note the section when the section of calm must be loaged with the administrative receivers by 12 moon on the day before the meeting at the section of the sec IN THE HERTFORD COUNTY COURT NO. 95 OF 1992 IN THE MATTER OF WESTERN REINFORCEMENTS LIMITED FORMERLY CHARTER REINFORCEMENTS FORMERLY CHARTIER
REMPORCEDENTS
(WESTERN) LIMITED AND
BITHE MATTER OF
THE PROCLYPNCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106
of the Resilvency Ruses 1986
Notice is bereby given that I.
Devid Lievellyn Morden. a
Liounsel insolvency Practitioner
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The Chartered A Secretary of State on 2 December 1992. D.L. Morgen, Liquidator.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1995
SCOTT INSTRUMENTS LTD
IN LOQUIDATION
TAKE NOTICE THAT I. Mcclosid William Young of Morion
Thornton & Co. Tortnoton
House. 47 Honwell Hin. St
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House. 47 Honwell Hin. St
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December 1992.
DATED this 21st day
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Michael William Young.
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LORD WILLIS

Lord Willis, playwright, polincian and author, died at his home in Chislehurst, Kent vesterday aged 78. This age is given by his family, although his birthdate is stated in Who's Who as being January 13, 1918,

LORD Willis, brought up in a buginfested house possessing only an outside lavatory shared with another family, decided at the age of nine that he wanted to become a writer. The summit of his early ambition was to work as a reporter on the Tottenham Herald. Instead, he went on to write plays, novels, film scripts and television series. His most famous creation was Dixon of Dock Green, which ran on television from 1953 to

His early work was influenced by his working class upbringing and left-wing political views; later while continuing to write sympathetically and with insight about ordinary people, he tended to relegate social and political comment in favour of well crafted entertainment that would appeal to a wide audience. His view of the human race was essentially optimistic, warm and a little sentimental. Like his policeman hero, George Dixon, he believed honesty and decency would eventually win through. Willis also sat in the

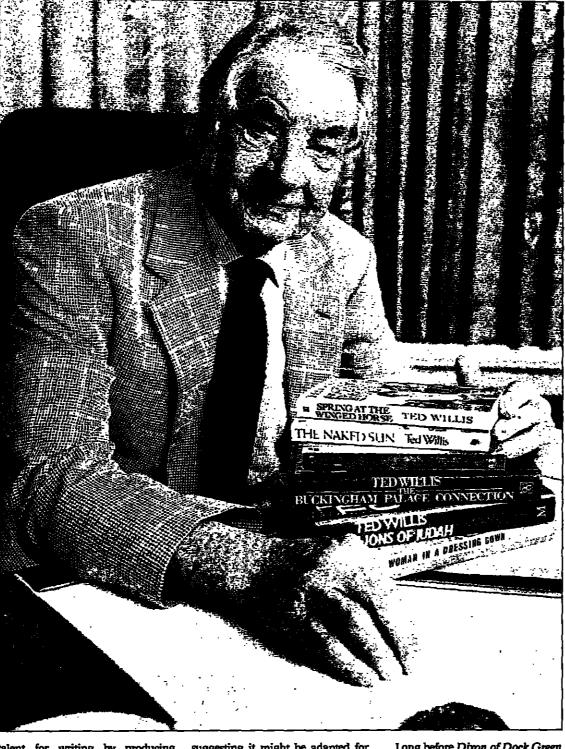
House of Lords for nearly 30 years. Willis was born in Tottenham. He always claimed that he only existed because his mother failed in an attempt to induce a miscarriage. On learning that she was pregnant with her third child she apparently took copious amounts of margarine and gunpowder as well as indulging in the more usual remedies for her condition which prevailed at the time - hot baths and gin. These measures did not produce the desired result and on a cold January day Ted Willis duly arrived in a draughty tenement in Stanley Road, Tottenham.

His mother - according to the mythology about his life which he was never slow to propagate - relented. "Oh well, I'll hang on to him", she is reported to have said after one look at the latest addition to her family.

Willis grew up as one of five children. His father had a drink problem which did not help his employment prospects during the depression period before the war. Willis was educated at Tottenham Central School and worked as an office boy, a baker's roundsman and

a bookie's runner. But he spent most of his adolescence fighting fascism and advocating socialism. A brawl with Sir Oswald Mosley's Blackshirts ended on one occasion with Willis spending a weekend imprisoned in a police station. He became national leader of the Labour Party's League of Youth and in 1939 caused a sensation by defecting to the Young Communist League which he saw then as a more effective force against fascism. One who followed him into the Communist Party was Frank Chapple. Fortyfive years later, when they had both become peers, it was Willis who was one of Chapple's sponsors when he entered the House of Lords.

Willis joined the Royal Fusiliers in 1939 and subsequently served with the Army Kinematograph Service. There he was able to develop his



talent for writing by producing scripts for documentary films; he helped with War Office films and wrote documentaries for the Ministry of Information. His first play, Buster, was produced at the Arts Theatre in 1944. He was still a communist and became theatre critic of the Daily Worker, forerunner of the Morning Star, and was closely involved with

the left-wing Unity Theatre. Buster, a comedy of East End life before and during the war, set the pattern for later work. During the 1940s Willis was closely involved, as writer and producer, with the left wing Unity Theatre. Of his early plays, the most notable was No Trees in the Street. A harsh examination of the London slums and their social effects, it was produced at the St James's Theatre in 1948.

The following year Willis and an Australian collaborator, Jan Read, sent an unpublished play about the London police to Ealing Studios,

suggesting it might be adapted for the screen. This was The Blue Lamp and it introduced the character of Constable Dixon. In the film Dixon was killed half way through but, resurrected by Willis for Dixon of Dock Green on television, he proved indestructible.

The series started in 1953 and ran for 22 years and 430 editions. Helped by the sympathetic blaying of Jack Warner, Dixon became a national father figure, the shrewd. kindly, ordinary copper. Indeed, when the the constable was shot dead in one episode by a villainous character played by Dirk Bogarde the outcry was so great that he had to be resuscitated to plod the beat again (Ironically, Willis had previously been fired as a scriptwriter from radio's long running soap, Mrs Dale's Diary, for getting rid of the protagonist and her friends by having them reverse their car over Beachy Head while out on a day trip).

Long before Dixon of Dock Green ended, Willis had handed over to other writers -- but it remained very much as he had created it. Even the arrival in the early 1960s of Z Cars, with a more critical and less cosy view of the police, failed to shake Dixon's popularity.
In addition to launching Dixon,

Willis wrote many single plays for television during the 1950s and wa at one time, the medium's leading playwright: his "poetic realism" invoked comparisons with the American writer Paddy Chayevsky. He also brought realism to the British cinema, with Woman in a Dressing Gown which charted the break up of a middle aged marriage, a film version of No Trees in the Street and Hot Summer Night, a stage and television play with an underlying theme of race prejudice. In 1959 Willis helped to found the Screenwriters' (later Writers') Guild of Great Britain and was its president for the first ten years.

The success of Dixon tended to overshadow Willis's other television series but Sergeant Cork, Mrs Thursday and Hunter's Walk were all, in their different ways, skilfully written and popular dramas with well drawn characters. Among later plays for television were The Four Seasons of Rosie Carr, a four-part cycle tracing the life of an East End barmaid, and The Ballad of Queenie Swann, written in rhyming couplets and about a widow in search of a husband; this was also produced as a stage musical.

He was one of the first life peers when Labour sent him to the Upper House in 1963. His maiden speech in the Lords was, appropriately, about relations between the police and the public. As president of the Writers' Guild he also helped to lead the fight for legislation on authors' public lending rights and in the Lords he backed Sunday theatre opening and the abolition of stage censorship. He also sought to end the statutory and common-law offence of

In 1970 he inaugurated a television award for outstanding services to the media. Thirteen years later he received the award himself in recognition of 40 years of television and screen writing. In 1970 Willis pub-lished an autobiography covering his early years called Whatever Happened to Tom Mix? Surprisingly, it was his first book but he soon made up for lost time with a succession of deftly plotted thrillers, which virtually established a new career. The first, Death May Surprise Us, centred on the kidnapping of the prime minis-ter, Man-Eater had tigers loose in the English countryside: The Churchill Commando imagined Britain taken over by right-wing extremists; and The Buckingham Palace Connection speculated on the fate of the last Russian Tsar.

Willis remained perennially modest about his great success. Interestingly, although he was, to a greater degree than any of his much more 'angry' writing contemporaries, a product of an unspannigly poverty-stricken background, bile seldom infected his writings. He never gave the impression of having resented his upbringing. He saw nothing to resent in the details of a childhood which might have left serious scars on a less robust constitution. In later life he was to say (again with the selfaffacement which was characteristic): "I think one of the reasons I'm not a better writer is that I had nothing in my childhood to make me angry. It didn't occur to me to question such things. Now, I think perhaps that I should have been angry that we didn't have much to eat and that my washing".

Willis was also active as a businessman, in film making, television and commercial radio and he was a member of the Sports Council from 1971 to 1973.

He was a fellow of the Royal Television Society and was also elected a fellow of the Royal Society of

He married in 1944 Audrey Hale and they had a son, a producer of television documentaries, and a daughter.

MAJOR-GENERAL ERIC COLE

Major-General Eric Stuart Cole, CB, CBE,

director of telecommunications in the War Office from 1958 to 1961, died on December 19 aged 86. He was born on February 10, 1906.

AN INGENIOUS innovator of communications equipment, Eric Cole was the Army telecommunications and radio expert who planned the signals aspects of the invasion of Normandy. He went on to become a major-general and director of telecommunications at the War Office. The son of a bandmaster in

the Royal Sussex Regiment, he was educated at Dover Grammar School and commissioned into the Royal Corps of Signals from Sandhurst in 1925. His early service was in Egypt and Palestine where he joined a group of desert enthusiasts who mastered the techniques of living and fighting in the desert. These skills were used later by the Long Range Desert Group and enabled the Army to treat the desert as a friend when it remained an enemy to Italian and German

troops. Cole's contribution was to build a transmitter and receiver which was used on a 1,500 mile trip by two cars through the Western Desert and the Libyan Sand Sea in 1934. He was able to maintain radio contact with their base at Abbassia each night, a feat previously considered unpractical

În 1938 in Palestine he commanded the 88th Division Signals under the irascible and ambitious Major-General Bernard Montgomery, operating against Arab terrorists in Northern Palestine. Monty never suffered fools gladly and accepted Cole as an efficient commander of his communications.

At the outbreak of the second world war, Cole was adjutant to 1st Divisions Signals which went to France in the expeditionary force in 1939. Just before the German offensive began he was promoted to second-in-command to General Sir Alan Brooke's 1st Corps Signals. He returned from Dunkirk as the acting chief signals officer of 1st Corps with the survivors one wireless detachment, five despatch riders and two linemen.

His military career was almost exclusively in the Royal Corps of Signals. His leisure activities included photography and he became an associate of the Royal Photographic Society. A numismatist, he specialised in English bronze coinage and he was also a leading competitor in international amateur

radio contests. Also a keen

sportsman, he was Army light heavyweight boxing champion in the late 1920s, a cricketer of county standard and a member of the Army and combined services teams for many years. In his later years he became a competitive golfer and was president of the Army Golfing Society in the 1970s and a winner of the General's Cup on several

After Dunkirk, Churchill was soon planning wildcat amphibious operations, most of them abandoned before they got off the ground, and Cole was asked to plan their communications. In July 1941 he became chief signals officer of Force 110, the principal amphibious striking force assembled for possible landings in the Azores, Canar-ies, French North Africa and even Sicily.

He designed some of the special equipment used by amphibious and airborne forces. It was a logical step to becoming chief signals officer in Mountbatten's combined operations headquarters in January 1942. During the Normandy landings he again became chief signals officer of the 1st Corps, but a week later he was sent forward to take over 6th Airborne Division signals after its commander was killed in action. He stayed with the division throughout the Normandy battles and was then transferred to the Italian theatre in October 1944 to become deputy signals chief to Alexander's Allied force headquarters, where he stayed until he was sent to Athens in April 1945 during the communist rebellion.

In 1946 he became chairman of the British Joint Communications Board in London, followed by two years in Washington and top positions in Britain and Europe culminating in his position at the War Office.

When he retired in 1961 he joined Ultra Electronics as manager of their telecommunications division. In 1964, he became the manager of Granger Associates, manufacturers of radio aerials, and he subsequently remained a consultant director of the firm. He was president of the Radio Society of Great Britain in 1961 and treasurer of the Cheisea ait 500

years. He married Doris Hartley the artist in 1941. They had no children; she died in 1986.

Correction

THE writer of the appreciation of Baron Geoffroy de Courcel published on December 22 was The Hon Lady Marie-Louise de Zulueta and not de Julieta, as printed. We apologise for the error.

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ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clywd: 7 Pestival of Nine Lessons and Carols: 11.45 Chural Euch, Stanford in B flat, Away in a manger, in Dutel Jubile, Sevon Joys, His Grace the Archbishop of Wales. manger, in Duis Judius, Sevon Myr. Ha Grace the Archibishop of Wales. BERMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 5.30 PESIVAI of Nime Lessons and Carolis; 11.30 Midnight Mass, Schubert in G. Sussex Carol, The Provost. CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC (Our Lady Undercroft: 11 Crib Service, Rev Dr CA Lewis: 3 Cothedral Carol Service; 5 & Responses (Shephard), Watson in E. Resonemus Laudius (Whitocis). CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 3 Children's Service; 6.30 Festival of Nine Lessons and Carolis: 11.30 Midnight Etch. Canon David Jenkins.

David Jenkins.
CHELMSFORD CATRIEDRAL: 8.15 & 10
HC. 8.45 MP; 4 Crib Service; 5.15 EP; 6
Service of Nine Lessons and Carols; 11.30
Midnight Mass. Missa ad practice
Odalcolmi, Carols by the choir. The

Malcolmi. Carols by the choit. The Provost.
CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.15 MP. 7.45 & 11 30 HC. 1.10 Cepan recinit; 4.15 Chorai E. Responses (Rose). Muntill in E. Lullay. Lord Jesus (art. Thaiben Ball). 11 AS Midnight Euch.
COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 9 MP. 12.40 Midday Prayer: 1 The Communion: 3.30 Family Service: 5 EP. 7 Liturgy for Carlsmas Eve.
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Lity CATHEDRAL: 6.30 E: 7 Procession with Carols and Biessing of the Crib.
LI 3.00 Midnight Ench.
LI CROBEGE'S CATHEDRAL: Southward: 7.30 e 12.30 Miscs 3.30 Childrany Crib Service: 11.30 Midnight Mass. Sparzen deformation. Achieved is your gloprous work this child of the Carols loop Litury said at Dunsants Chapel: 5.15 Festival of Mine Lessons with Carols: 100 to the World (Hernatuni. A Little child on the earth has been born (Flemish). Adam by younden (Ord),

Church services tomorrow What sweeter trustic can we bring than a carol (Bennett), Mary had a baby (arr. Sargent), 1 saw a malden (arr. Feinman), Rejoice and be merry (arr. Nicholson); 11.45 Sung Bath, The Sparrow senting baccarr in C. Myn hyking (Perry). The Bishop of Leicester.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.40 M; 8 & 10.30 HC 3.15 E; 4 Cathedral Carol Service; HC 315 E 4 Cathedral Card Service 11.30 Procession Blessing of the Crib and Sung Buch.

LACHFELD CATHEDRAL: 3.30 E.

Responses (Rose). New college service (Howells). Lully initia (Leighton): 6.30 Blessing of the Crib: 11.30 First Communion of Christmas. on Blessing of the Crib and Riessing of the Crip: 11.30 Risk Communion of Christmas, 7.30 M: 8 & 12.30 RC 3 E. 4 Christmas Carol Service and Blessing of the Crib; 11.30 Midnight Mass, Hesse de Mirult (Charpentiet), Canon Michael Saward.

ST PAULTS CATHEDRAL, Dundes: 11.30 Midnight Mass, 1 saw three Ships (arr. Lloyds), The Provost.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 3.15 E. Procession and Blessing of the Crib; 11.30 Midnight Euch, The Bishop.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 11.30 Midnight Buch, Schulen Ball, A child is born in Bertheham (Scheigt), Away in a manger arr. Moore). The Rishop of Southwark.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 4 Blessing of the manger jart. Moore, The Hisnop of Southwark.
WELLS CATHEDRAL: 4 Elessing of the Crits 5.15 & 11.30 Midnight Euch, Rt Rev James Thompson. Bishop.
WESTMINSTER ABERT 7.30 & 3 Service of Lessons and Carols; 11.30 Midnight Euch, The Dean.
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: Masses 7.
8.830, 9, 10.30, 12.30 & 1.05; 7.40 MP; 4.15 Solemin Fundical ist Verpers of Christmas, Magnifical Occay tool Materniol. O magnum mysterium (Poolend, in duct jubilo (Bach), HE The Cardinal: Vigil Mass of Christmas, Migsaleul notare redempto (Palestrina), Dies sanctificatus (Palestrina), There is no rose (Incernost 11.15 Solemn Vigil & Midnight).

The Cardinal
TORK MINSTER: 7.50 M; 7.50 HC: 12
TORK MINSTER: 7.50 M; 7.50 HC: 12
Foliating of the Crib: 3 EF: 4 Pestival of
Nine Lessons and Carols.
GUARDS CHAPFL Wellington Barracks,
SWI: 11.15 Carols at the Manger; 11.30
Midnight Choral HC. Mass (treiand in G).
Rev K R Joyce.
CHAPFL ROYAL Hampton Court Palace.
11 Midnight Mess of the Nativity.
STI ALBANY, Brooks St. ECI: 12 Midnight
EM, Missa brevis in C (Mozant), Rodie
Christis natus est (Poulert), Preb John
Gashall. ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 11.30 Communion Service, Preb Richard Bewes COMMUNION SETTICE, Freb Eichard Bewei.
GROSVENOR CHAPEL. South, Antiley
Street, W1: 10.45 Carols; 11.15 Elessing of
the Crib and Mass. Messe de minuti
(Charpentier, New Eichard Hayes.
ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT,
Smithfield, ECI: 11.45 Midnight Choral
Euch, The Recure. ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11.30 candlell Midnight Mass.
ST CLEMENT DANES: 11.30pm Choral Euch, Messe de Minut: (Charpenter), Thou must leave thy lowly dwelling (Berling). (Scring, Sussex Gardens, W2: 5.30 Carols around the Crit: 11.30 Midnight Mass, Darke in F, Rev Graham Buckle. ST MARK'S, Repents Park Rd, NW1: 11.30 Midnight Mass, Mass in C, Coronation (Mogari), Carols, Rev Tom Devonshire JODES.

ST MARCABETTS, Westminster, SWI: (1
Pirst Euch of Christmas, Setting (Mass in
G/Schubert), Hodie Christma natus est
(Schun, Rev Philip Chester,
ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SWI: 12
midnight HM (with carols from 11.20
and orchestral, Missa brevis in C (Mozard,
Hodie Christma natus est (Bassano), A
child is bord in Behlpherm (Scheidt), Pr

Bill Scott: 9 LM: 10.30 HM, Missa octavi ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 11:30 Midnight Mass, Spatzenmesse Occard, The Lord Bishop of London (SBC Radio 4 Broadcast). Radio 4 Broadcast).

BY MATTHEW'S, Westminster, SW1:
Midnight Mass. Music (Murray/Loundes),
Fr Midnaci Hayes.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place SW1: 5
Children's Service, Rev Roper Royle; 11:30
Solemn Midnight Buch, Missa Brevis in
C. Spatzminessa Marzari, Ascribe unto
the Loui (Travers), Carola, The Bishop of
Pulham. Pulham.

8T PETER'S. Esson Square, SW1: 5 Crib
Service, 11.30 Midnight Mass. Missa O
thagnum mysterium (Victoria), Rev Fr
Alan Chidwick. ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTIAND, Pont Street, SW1: 1130pm Candlelight Service.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covern Garden, WC2: 1130 Watchnight Service.

THE ASSUMPTION, Watwick Street, WI: 1130 Carols, Missa rorate coells desuper Photograph. 11.30 Carols, Missa rorate coelis desirper (Haydin)
THE ORATORY. Brompton Road, SW7: 6
Mass; 11.30 Midnight Mass, Carols, Mass in C (Beethoven). O regent caeli (Victoria).
ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Piace: 11.30 pm Messe solenuelle (Goumod), A bymn to the Virgin (Ridinen), A babe is born (Mashins), Bedhelmen Down (Warfock). Resorte in Isodibus (Handi).
AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON. Touenham Court Rd, W1: 9.45 Sunday School: 11 Worklo, Rev J Schnidt.
ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran). Grestiam St, EC2: 7 Family Candisight Carol Service with St Anne's Choli: WESLEY'S CHAPEL. City Road. EC2: 11.30 Midnight Communion, Rev Paul Hulme.
WESTMINSTER. CENTRAL BALL Huime.
WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL
(Methodist). SW1: 11.30 Midnight

SPORT IN THE ALPS THE POPULAR SKI

By F.S. Smythe

The origin of skiing is unknown. The first The origin of skiing is unknown. The first mention of it, according to Mr. Arnold Lunn in "A History of Ski-ing," occurs in Procopius (A.D. 526-559), who mentions a race of Skridfinnar, or gliding Finns. The birthplace and nursery of skiing was Scandinavia, and, although snow-shoes appear to have been worn by travellers crossing Alpine passes in the sixteenth century, skis were used in this country before they were used in Switzerland. Postmen are reputed to have accomplished snow rounds on them, there is a mention of rosmen are reputed to have accompushed snowly rounds on them, there is a mention of them in "Lorna Doon," and a writer in T.P.'s Weekly, in February 1904, stated that 40 years before he used "skees" to go to school, and that they helped the Weardale miners to go to and from their work. "It being a fine thing to see 30 or 40 men gliding down the steen clopes from the mines at a speed could be steep slopes from the mines at a speed equal to that of a railway train." He also mentioned that "skee-jumping" was a sport among youths, and that boys of his own age had possessed their grandfathers' "skees."

Skiing as a sport is a comparatively modern ment, and owing to the lack of snow in

ON THIS DAY

December 23 1933

基金的

Francis Sydney Smythe (1900-49), a mountaineer who led the first expedition to climb a peak of over 25,000ft (Kamet) was a frequent contributor to

The Times.

this country it was left to pioneers of European countries, such as Mathias Zdarsky, of Austria: Wilbelm Paulcke, Carl Luther, and Dr. Tholus of Germany; Christoph Iselin and Professor Egger, of Switzerland; and M. Dahamel, of France, to learn the art and pass

on their knowledge and enthusiasm to others.
One of the first Englishmen to shi was the late W. Cecil Slingsby, who undertook some expeditions in Norway in 1880, but it seems probable that two unknown Englishmen, who ascended the Brocken in 1884, were the first Englishmen to ski on the Continent. In 1868 Colonel Napier brought ski to Dayos.

and Dame Katherine Furse, in an article in the 1921 Ski Year Book, describes her experiences on them. But it was not until the nineties that British skiing began to gather impens. Gerald Fox introduced ski to Grindelwald in 1891, and in 1894 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle made a whole day's nour across the Mayenfelder Furka from Dayos to Arosa guided by the brothers Branger, of Dayos. In 1895-96 the brothers E.C. and C.W. Richardson learnt to ski in Norway, and in 1898 Mr. Arnold Lunn, who with Mr. E.C. Richardson is one of the founders of British skiing, and who has done more than any other Englishman to popularise and develop the sport, put on ski for the first time at Chamonix.

To "run like an Englishman" was in the early days a term of reproach, for British skiing technique lagged sadly behind that of Central Europe and Scandinavia. It was not until January 6, 1903, that the first club, the Davos English Ski Club, was founded by the brothers Richardson. In the same year the Ski Chub of Great Britain was formed. Again Mr. E.C. Richardson was the moving spirit and he became hon, secretary of the club, Mr. Edgar Syers being elected president. The club instituted as its publication "Ski-Running" but in 1905 this was changed to an annual

THE TIMES TODAY

NEVIS US may use missiles against Serbs

America is prepared to launch cruise missile attacks on Serbian airfields to enforce the air exclusion zone over Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Pentagon disclosed, as the Western allies put the finishing touches to a draft UN resolution aimed at

curbing Serb aggression in the former Yugoslav republic. The draft authorising military action could be ready today, and John Major told troops during a surprise visit to Bosnia yesterday that it would be put to the security council within Pages 1,6,12,13

Yeltsin cancels Christmas summit

Amid uncertainty over the future of his economic reforms. President Yeltsin withdrew from the Commonwealth of Independent States summit scheduled for Minsk on Christmas day... .. Pages 1,7

Passengers killed

British workers are feared to be among the 158 passengers who died when a Libyan Boeing 727 crashed on an internal flight from Benghazi to Tripoli Page 1

Staying away

The Princess of Wales is not expected at Sandringham for Christmas. She is believed to be going to stay with her brother, Earl Spencer, at Althorp House in Northamptonshire Page 1

Double quit

A hospital trust manager who has been sacked for sexual harassment resigned from two other hospitals while under investigation for alleged misdemeanours. However, he also received several glowing references .. Page 5

Growing force

Israel sent more troops to the border area with Lebanon to stop the 415 Palestinians stranded in no man's land from trying once again to return to Israeliheld territory. Earlier the deported men had to move back towards Lebanon after Israeli forces fired machineguns and mortars at them... Page 8

Open secret

Papers that give details of the Macmillan government's secret offer to help America overthrow Fidel Castro in Cuba are due to be released today Page 4

Sleeping in

Thousands of homeless people throughout Britain will swap

their damp makeshift beds today for the comfort of a Christmas refuge where they will be fed, given medical treatment where necessary and entertained. But their move into the warm will be

Painful memories

The pilots of the Dutch DC10 which crashed in Portugal this week with the loss of 54 lives have told accident investigators about the last few moments of their ill-fated attempt to

Schoolboys die

Two schoolboys in Chesterfield, Derbyshire, died after falling through ice on a frozen pond. Four firemen were being treated in hospital for hypothermia last night after trying to rescue the boys, thought to have been aged 14 and 15..... Page 3

Action on rape

Rape has become a systematic weapon of war in the Bosnian conflict and the rapists should be put before war crimes tribunals. according to a report by the World Council of Churches. Two of the council's investigators have just returned from a visit to

Pit defiance

The government and British Coal are heading for a further clash with miners after unions condemned Michael Heseltine's announcement that coal production would not resume at the ten doomed pits, despite this week's High Court ruling Page 2

Battle of the plastic bimbos

The grown-up world of plastic surgery and breast reshaping at last reached the toy market, when Hasbro Industries, the maker of Sindy, agreed that she should have a facelift to make her look less like Barbie. Mattel, the manufacturer of Barbie, had threatened a multi-million dollar legal action because of Sindy's resemblance to its own product



Long haul: Blizzard, a spaniel, pulling Jacob Johnston, 1 I, and his cousin Sara, 1, on a sledge in Rapid City, South Dakota

Grounded: British Airways has been forced to call off its £480 million tie-up with USAir, the American airline after the federal authorities refused to drop their objection to the deal Page 17 Trade gap: Britain's trade figures plunged £1.2 billion into the red last month, compared with a £950 million deficit in October, as imports continued to flood the high street despite the recession. The figures reawakened fears that the country's manufacturing base is now too weak to meet consumer demands.... .. Page 17 Markets: The stockmarket hit another record high, its third in succession boosted by heavy trading in the futures market. The FT-SE 100 index rose 34.3 to close at 2,842.0, bringing the gain in the past three trading days to 101. Brokers are predicting further

Taken back: The International Cricket Council has bowed to pressure from Pakistan and withdrawn its invitation to Tom Graveney, the former England batsman, to act as the match referee for the Test series and one-day internationals between West Indies and Pakistan.... .. Page 28 Loss of credit: The future of Eu-

Greater London..... Kent, Surrey Sussex Dorset, Hants & JOW

West Mid & Sth Giam & G Shrops, Hereids & Words Central Midlands East Midlands

AA HOABWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0338 401 followed by the appropriate code.

Roedwatch is charged at 36p per minute sap rate) and 48p per minute at all other

London & SE traffic, readwork C. London (within N & S Circs.)

stional traffic and root

oremplen & E High N W Scotland

Mary Reveley, who rope's richest indoor women's tenruns her star chaser Cab On Target at nis tournament, held at Brighton Kempton on Boxing for the past 15 years, has been day, is a top trainer threatened by Midland Bank's debut she lets her horses cision to withdrew its do the talking Page 29 sponsorship... .. Page 32

. Page 17

thinness is integral to a woman's judgment of her personal success, Sarah Mower finds that the thought of being a slim corpse at one's own untimely funeral is less likely to be reckoned a tragedy than it is to be perceived as an achievement_

Mass appeal: All too often priests and dergy have to perform a delicate balancing act, between keeping order in line with the solemnity of the occasion, while not alienating those who might have had one drink too many in the pub . Page 11

Grooves and rute: Can jazz, which is essentially live and spontaneous. ever be completely at home in the recording studio? The 75th anniversary of the first ever jazz recordings offers the chance for re-..Page 23

Zenda is full of action and romance. Prize possessions: A vast array of sporting trophies makes a glittering show at the Victoria and Albert

Crowned by duels: A new stage

production of The Prisoner of

Ealing opera? Fifties comedy classic The Ladykillers has been turned into an opera by Czech composer Ilja Hurník

Adelina Patti fell in

love with a castle in

the wilds of Powys.

Now opera fans are

£1.5 million to repair

being asked to find

the diva's home

Page 5

Alarm call: In the eyes of the police and insurance companies Christmas is also the felonious season. Nigel Buxton on how burglars do not have a merry time at your expense..... Moving house: Fed up of waiting for that elusive buyer? Home ex-

attractive.

... Page 26 changes are looking increasingly

Setting point: One of life's enigmas, about which the chattering classes love to chatter, is why doesn't everyone do their shopping as sensibly as they do? Why do so many people buy the pricey manu-

SIMON JENKINS

.. Page 26

facturers' brands Page 27

who served in the last

Democratic adminis-

Carter, is expected to

tration for Jimmy

be in Bill Clinton's

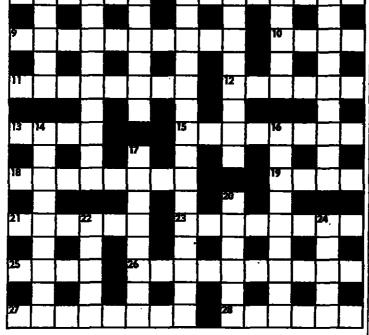
White House team

Page 8

Warren Christopher,

countries are committed to push the European Community to an unprecedented level of union. A year ago, they expected it to be broadly popular. Since then they conspicuously lukewarm and ambivalent - Washington Post

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,109



- I Make fast lap to secure Silver. perhaps (3-3).
- 5 Properly directed to follow shortterm saïellite emission (8).
- 9 Common prison dispute heard in courtyard (10). 10 Flower would be nothing if cut
- 11 Demand for parking in a small Parisian enclosure (8).
- 12 Abdicate when son is put in to rule (6).
- 13 Vehicle rejected by trading centre
- 15 Justily dropping of opening show 18 English comedian carrying on
- and making money (8). 19 Frolic in vessel on lake (4).
- 21 Still an intrusion likely to spoil the reception (6).
- 23 Manifold, as 6 is of 3, for

example (8). Solution to Puzzle No 19.108

O O L A W O E LFREOVE EXTEM BIDLRSON

- 25 Packaged, we hear, and carried away (4). 26 Garden ably cultivated on the
- whole (2,3.5).
- 27 Cooks use them to finish off cakes on the outside (8). 28 Fairly flat and extremely lengthy

DOWN

- 2 Sally holding up Eastern attire
- 3 Philanderer sailed away with crew (6,3). 4 Priceless instrument soaring to
- top note (6). 5 Does it help one to get bearings from drawing room? (8.7).
- 6 Pull rank to cancel order I've put out? (8).
- 7 Offers to wrap new ties (5). 8 Creature snarling at gorilla (9).
- 14 Pedigree dog's competition
- 16 Give special attention to sect that's to collect tax (9). 17 Friendly even when caught out
- 20 Ran off with notes to prepare for
- 22 Host rising to accept thanks
- 24 Constitutional taken in terrible
- gales (5).

Concise Crossword, page 32

Fog in England and Wales will clear slowly, although patches will persist, especially in the Midlands. The best of any sunshine will be in the West, while the East may have showers. Fog in Scotland and Northern Ireland should clear, becoming bright in places. Thickening cloud over northwest Scotland will spread southeast, bringing rain. Outlook: rain moving southwards and overnight fog persisting. AROUNDATE

Tristan Garel-Jones

wanted to step down

as a foreign minister

last year. John Major

persuaded him to stay

presidency was over

until Britain's EC

Page 4

	A CHANGE OF THE PARTY OF THE PA	
MIDDAY:	t=thunder; d=drizzle: (g=fog; s= st; srj=snow; f=fair; c=dloud; rj=rai	Sum:
1	G F C	F 83 /
Alacelo Alacelo	15 59 s Melega. 16 (31 C
Alexidria Alexiera	17 63 f Melbime 17 8	54 J 33 r
Amst dm	3 37 c Mexico C* 16 6 15 59 s Mismi* 26 7	31 S
Athens Bahrain	15 59 s Masama* 26 7 17 63 i Masan 6 4	79 f 13 c
Bangkok	17 63 t Millan 6 4 31 88 s Montheal* -5 2	23 8
Barbada* Barceina	27 81 c Moscow -0 1 12 54 (Munich 7 4	16 s
Beirut Beignade	15 59 c Namirob∣ -	1
Bergin	-1 30 c N Delhi 21 7	55 f
Bermuda* Blamtz	'2170 r NYork* 2.3	B S
Borde'x	11 52 / Osto -8 1	7 f
Bruesels Budenet	3 37 s Paris 5 4	1 6
B Alres	29 84 s Penth (aus.) 25 7	5 5
Cairo	75 50 / Wenter 7 7	66 c l
Cape In Chicago Chichurch	23 73 s Reyktjavík 7 4 1 34 f Rhodes 14 5	5 f
Ch'church Calogne	RiodaJ 28 8 5 41 r RiodeJ 33 9	2 11
C'ohaon	2 36 s Rivadh 16 6	H S
Corfu Dublin	13 55 s Rome 16 6 5 41 c Sebatourg 5 4	[[
Dubrovnik	SFriecco 9 4	8 6
Faro Florence	17 63 c Santiago 22 7 13 55 f S Paulo 28 8	2 5
Frankhut	6 43 r Seoul 2 3	6 5
Funchel Geneva	14 57 S SENGIDOR 29 8	44 FJ
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Madrid de	notes Milleres ere latest available	I
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Yesterday	Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 6C (43	⊁); ∫
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Som. 6.0hr	ram: 24m to open, m. Sun: 24m r. Bar, mean sea level, 6cm, 1,03	an 1
millibers, ri	sing.	~~
1,000 milit	2878=29.53lm.	1

SKIING HOLIDAYS CAN GO DOWNHILL... ... if you haven't got the roper insurance. Ring WPA Travel Plan before you go for immediate cover. Make sure with

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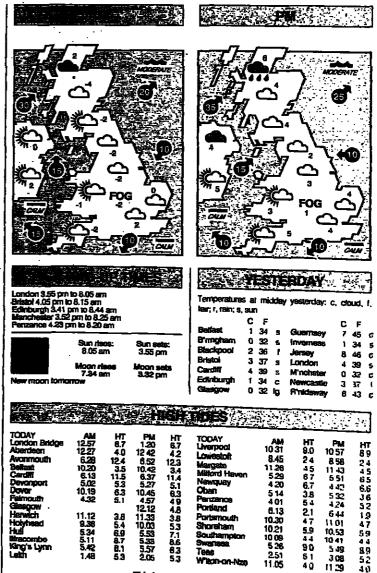
Health International Telephone: 081-680 6808

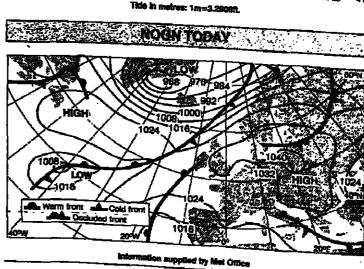
Yesterday, Highest day temp: St Mary's, lales of Scilly, 9C (48F); lowest day temp: Loch Glascarnoch, Highland, 3C (27F); highest ramfall: Edinburgh, 0.05in; highest sunshine: Ventnor, liste of Wight; Weymouth, Dorset; Worthing, West Sussex, 8.2hr. Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 1C (34F); min 6pm to 6am, 4C (25F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nii. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.7hr.

PERSONAL PROPERTY.

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8ank Sels 2 12 18.70 49.00 1.905 9.25 7.91 2.38 10.90 2130.00 188.50 2.682 10.22 24.400 4.50 160.55 2.15 12850.0 1.505 2.52 18.20 53.40 2.065 10.05 8.71 8.82 2.56 12.60 0.96 2295.0 207.50 2.912 11.02 Germany Dm _______ Hong Kong \$ _____ Ireland Pt ______ Italy Ure ______ Japen Yen ______ Netherlands Gld 232,00 6,20 179,50 11,35 2,33 13850.0 1,635 Yesterday: Temp: mex 6am to 6pm, 1C (34F): min 6pm to 6em, 0C (32F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Rates for small de is supplied by Bar alse apply to travell ubject to change,





CTIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED. 1992. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd at 1 Virginia Street, London E 1 9 NN. telephone 071-782 5000 and at Knowstey Park Industrial Estate, Killing Russl. Merseyside, 134 9414, telephone 081-546 2000. Wednesday, December 23, 1992. Registered

."f 1

M Delors has managed to build Motorway mayhem

Cult comedian Jack Dee stars in a Christmas special with a guest appearance by Tom Jones. The Jack

Dee Show (C4, 9pm)...... Page 31

Both the EC's new ambassadors are shrewd and experienced

enough to know that if they co-

operate, they will be the most influential pair of commissioners after

the president himself and a formi-

dable counterweight to the power

OPPLION

in harness

There will be no significant change in driving practice until police are given the power to make advisory speed limits compulsory. Such restrictions would be triggered by weather conditions and set regionally by chief police officers Page 13

Duty before Christmas

(from December 20, 1935) It seems odd that men, who have always sung the most loudly on the glories of Christmas should now leave the privilege of shopping mainly to their wives and

SMILLIANS

So stupid is Western policy towards Serbia that I rather think everybody is on Slobodan Milosevic's side. Politicians should repeat three times a day before breakfast: "Economic Sanctions Never Work". Sanctions against Serbia have done what sanctions always do: entrench those in power, breed nationalism and encourage selfsufficiency....

21.779

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THE POLING

STOCK MARKS

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Terri

JOHN HABGOOD

Our own monarchy nowadays virtually has to rely on symbolism alone, and the potential danger in this for the future in focusing too much attention on the persons themselves is beginning to be recognised. The main thrust of the symbolism needs to be moved back to where it properly belongs, to the sovereign as the embodiment of the unity and history of the nation under God...

THE PAPERS

Europe is in trouble. All of the big



BUSINESS 17-21

Why the Old Lady needs its foot soldiers



MEDIA 27

Have we got news for you, Trevor



SPORT 28-32

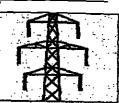
Midland withdraws backing for top tennis tournament



WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 23 1992

BUSINESS TODAY

HIGH POWER



GEC Alsthom, the Anglo-French joint venture, has won a US\$3 billion contract to equip a new power station in Hong Kong

A NAME OF THE OWNER.

e de Albert

HIGH SCORE

Five mining shares selected in January achieved an average appreciation in value of 7.3 per cent Tempus, page 19

HIGH NOTE



founder and chairman of Chrysalis, is planning a return to the record business Page 18

HIGH FINANCE



has raised £200 million from property sales. equivalent to a one-forsix rights issue

Failure of BA's American dream

\$750m air deal withdrawn as open skies talks collapse

BY COUN NARBROUGH WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

LORD King, the acquisitive British Airways chairman, has been forced to abort his airline's \$750 million bid for a stake in USAir, the American domestic carrier, after Washington refused to drop its objections to the deal.

Despite the setback, BA intends to pursue "alternative relationships" with USAir and is likely to come back with a substantially scaled down offer in the new year, probably after President-elect Bill Clinton takes office.

A new deal is not expected to involve any link to moves to open up British airports to American airlines. The 44 per cent stake BA sought in USAir was intended to give it the crucial access to the American market at the heart of Lord King's strategic expansion to make BA a truly global operator.

Failure of the deal dashes hopes of a new liberalised air services agreement between Britain and America. Talks between the two governments, which had been going on for months, were immediately suspended and the department of transport withdrew all its offers to allow American airlines greater access to Brit-

A transatlantic deadlock over "open skies" for US airlines in Britain has prompted the withdrawal of BA's \$750 million bid for a crucial stake in USAir

ish regional airports. With relations between the two sides at a low, the prospects of more direct trans-Atlantic flights from such regional airports as Birmingham and Manchester seem more remote than ever, although it is hoped that the Clinton administration may be willing to re-open talks.

Last week, BA secured Australian approval to pay £290 million for 25 per cent of Qantas, the national carrier, boosting BA's presence in the Asia-Pacific region. Hopes that BA could round off 1992 with USAir in tow faded last weekend, when it became apparent that even John Major had been unable during his visit to Washington to extract a green light for BA from the Bush administration.

The powerful American airline lobby bitterly opposed the deal, even though USAir urgently needs a strong financial Leading American carriers

argued that the deal, under which the British airline would acquire 21 per cent of the voting rights in USAir,

Bush to reject

BA links

with USAir

From The Times of December 17

John Major will be told next week that

THURSDAY DECEMB

would have given a foreign company a degree of influence over an American airline that

was illegal.
The American airlines insisted that the bid should be coupled with moves towards opening British airports to more competition from America. BA opposed the idea, fearful that its dominant position in London could be undermined.

Stephen Wolf, the United chairman, voiced disappointment at the BA withdrawal. He said the decision was a lost opportunity for all concerned" to liberalise the outdated and heavily restricted aviation agreement between American and Britain.

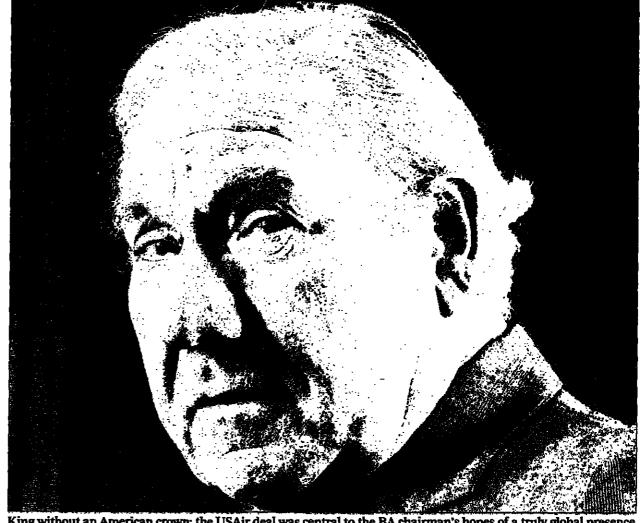
BA made clear that it was dropping the conditional \$750 million USAir offer on the grounds that it could not be expected to pump in such a large amount of money without a large say in the way the airline was run.

BA appeared relieved that the British government had not agreed to "unwarranted and unilateral concessions" under the bilateral air services

It described as regrettable that acceptance of its legal cessive" demands from the

The conditiional bid was scheduled to lapse on Thursday in the absence of Washington's blessing. The British offer to give American airlines unlimited access to regional airports in this country has now been withdrawn, the transport department said.

Comment, page 19



King without an American crown: the USAir deal was central to the BA chairman's hopes of a truly global presence

US blames Britain for breakdown

From Philip Robinson in New York

ANDREW Card, the Ameri- skies" - a condition of the Heathrow airport. He said cash infusion similar to that aterary, ye day indicated there was a rift between British Airways and UK officials over negotiating

terms of the deal. He was speaking at a press conference after announcing that BA had terminated its offer for a stake in USAir. Mr Card said he believed moves to block the deal stemmed from UK airlines. He said the British government was supporting a policy of "open

USAir deal — but that British airlines had been resistant. "The government in the UK

is interested in moving forward. The carriers may not be as forward leaning," he Mr Card said America's

main objection to the BA-USAir deal was the UK's refusal to allow American airlines free access to the

market for Europeans at

i ne ano John MacGrego his British counterpart, agreed that an open skies policy would benefit both carriers. allowing full and fair competi-

Meanwhile, Wall Street analysts think that Lufthansa, the German airline, may reopen the talks for closer links with USAir that had been going for months before BA's

formal July offer. Key to any deal will be a

Julius Maldutis, a Salomon Brothers analyst, said the deal is far from over. He said the news was a pause, not the end, and BA would be back with a winning structure. By the time the Clinton administration took office, USAir would have produced its results for last year, which are expected to show another annual loss of about \$350 million.

nich would nave come

the British Airways deal.

THE POUND

US dollar 1.5390 (-0.0245) German mark 2.4419 (-0.0097) Exchange index

Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 2184.5 (+24.8) FT-SE 100 2842.0 (+34.3) New York Dow Jones' Tokyo Nikkei Avge 17690.67 (+45.23)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base. 7%
3-morth interbenk: 7'-7'e%
3-morth eligible bills: 6"3x-6"s/%
US: Prime Rais: 6%
Federal Funds: 2"-6%"
3-morth Treasury Bills: 3.21-3.19%*
30-year bonds: 103"x-103"m"

CURRENCIES

New York: £: \$1.5400" \$. DM1.5865" \$: SWF/1.4342" \$: FF/5.4125"

London Forex market close

GOLD WAY

London Fbdng: AM \$334,35 PM \$332.60 ex \$ 332.25-332.75*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jan) \$18.30/bb! (\$18.55)

RETAIL PRICES

RPT: 139 7 November (1987 = 100)

Widening trade gap fuels fears on long-term outlook

By Janet Bush, economics correspondent

BRITAIN'S trade performance worsened again in November as imports of consumer goods continued to pour in, despite weak demand, and cost more as the first effects of devaluation came through. The figures confirmed wor-

ries that Britain's manufacturing base is too small to furnish consumers with the goods they want. Even at the bottom of a severe recession, what weak consumer demand there is is being met by imports. When recovery comes, Britain's trade performance could deteriorate to unacceptable proportions and act as a long-term re-

straint on economic growth. The trade deficit widened to £1.19 billion last month from £950 million in October, according to the Central Statistical Office. More worrying was a deterioration in the underlying deficit, excluding oil and erratic items, to £1.63 billion from £1.43 billion.

These are the classic halfmarks of the "J-curve" effect after devaluations, in which import prices rise before exports benefit from the boost to

their competitiveness. Import prices rose about 3 per cent in November and there are likely to be more rises over the next few months. These cannot be monitored in the first six months of next year because figures will not be published while Britain switches to a new European standard for collect-

The strength of import penetration is unprecedented at this stage of the economic cycle, according to Adam Cole of James Capel. The current account deficit is running at nearly 2 per cent of gross



domestic product. In 1982, roughly the same stage of the last recession, there was a

that import penetration does seem to have flattened out.

in the medium term. The mark-came under pressure as dealers speculated that the German central bank may be conceding the case for lower interest rates early next year. The dollar rose to DM1.5865

DM 1.5760.

surplus of 1.7 per cent. The Treasury pointed out

Tensions eased in the exchange-rate mechanism after Helmut Schlesinger, the Bundesbank president, ap-peared to adopt a less hawkish tone about inflation. He said lower inflation could lead to 6 per cent market interest rates

Sterling dropped on disap-pointment about the trade figures, closing at DM2.4385 from DM2.4515 on Monday and dropping nearly 3 cents to \$1.5380. Hopes of more rate cuts if the Germans cut their interest rates boosted British shares. The FT-SE 100 closed 34.3 points higher at a record 2,842.

Shares hit another record close

By Michael Clark

ANOTHER fast-moving performance by the futures market, where the March series touched a peak of 2,891, squeezed share prices higher and enabled the London stock market to extend its recordbreaking run. The FT-SE 100 index recov-

ered from a hesitant start to close 34.3 points up at a high of 2,842. The index has risen 101 point in the past three trading sessions.

Bullish brokers predict that

it will move higher over the Christmas period to touch 2,900, reflecting the view that 1993 will be a year of economic recovery.

lion shares, bolstered again by "bed and breakfast" transactions to establish year-end tax losses, the squaring up of fund managers' portfolios and straddling by arbitrageurs between cash and futures. Genuine retail business ap-

peared to be thin; stock shortages and absence of sellers exaggerated price movements.

Stock market, page 20

OFT will not refer credit card business

BY NEIL BENNETT BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE Office of Fair Trading has given the

banks an early Christmas present by deciding not to refer the credit and debit card business to the monopolies commission after a two-year investigation.

Sir Bryan Carsberg, OFT director-general said a formal investigation of the market was not appropriate, despite complaints from food retailers, including Tesco and Sainsbury's, about the rise in debit card processing fees.

The OFT said there was no evidence that the banks had colluded to fix

merchant acquiring charges, the fees that retailers pay for card transactions, and to abandon their no discrimination rule retailers pay for card transactions, and that the banks were not making excess profits from the business.

However, Sir Bryan said he will continue informal enquiries into several areas of the market, and may try to abolish the banks' stranglehold on the

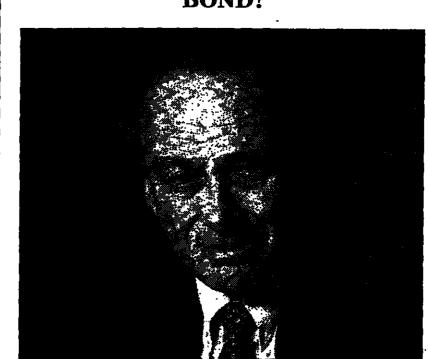
merchant acquiring business.
At the moment only card issuers can also be merchant acquirers. Sir Bryan said he would examine the market to see if retailers and independent companies should also be allowed to become

merchant acquirers. The OFT is also expected to ask debit in the new year. This would enable retailers to charge more for goods bought by Switch or American Express.

Despite these conditions, the banks were overjoyed. Richard Reay-Smith, chief executive of Barclays Central Retail Services division, said: "We have demonstrated that card processing is a very competitive business and that larger retailers often receive these services at

prices which are below cost." The British Retail Consortium in turn welcomed further investigation into card

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GEC wins \$3bn HK power deal

By COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

DESPITE the political turbulence over Hong Kong, GEC Alsthom, the Anglo-French generating plant joint venture. in a consortium with America's General Electric, has won a contract, worth up to US\$3 billion, to equip a new power station in the crown colony.

About 40 per cent of the work on the plant - which is the largest order for a combined cycle gas-turbine power station placed this year and matches the biggest plant of its kind — will be carried out in Britain, Factories in France and America will get about 30 per cent each.

The deal, secured in competition with Stemens of

Border raises payout after profit forecast

BORDER Television, the Cumbrian regional operator chaired by Melvyn Bragg. proposes to raise its interim dividend to 1.3p (1.1p) after forecasting a brighter profits outlook despite paying out £385,000 for staff severance

costs (Philip Pangalos writes).
The USM-quoted company reported operating profits ahead 77.6 per cent to £904,000 in the six months to end-October. Pre-tax profits

rose 2 per cent to £519,000. Earnings were 3.4p (3.3p) a share. The shares rose 3p to Germany, provides an impor-tant end-of-year boost to British exports, the growth rate of which had started to flag in recent months despite the more competitive pound. Negotiations were led by Nick Salmon, deputy managing di-rector of GEC Alsthom's gas turbine division.

The contract from Castle Peak Power Company (Capco), which is owned by China Light and Power and Exxon, is for a 2,400 mega-watt gas-fired combined cycle gas turbine power plant for the new Black Point station. Capco runs all power stations in the Kowloon and New Territories districts.

China Light said the consortium was chosen on the basis of its lower cost. The winning tender contained highly competitive financing, involving long-term export credits. Work on the project will start

immediately.

Kevin Bray, managing director at GEC Alsthorn, was delighted with the deal, which he described as one of the most prestigious power generation projects in the world. He noted that the contract also provided another important reference for the superior gas-fired combined cycle technol-ogy the Anglo-French-American consortium could

The technology is based on the world's largest gas turbine, the 9F, which was co-developed with GE and is becom-ing the standard electricity enerator around the world.



Play it again: profits encouraged Chris Wright to return to the record business

Chrysalis to launch new label

By PHILIP PANGALOS

CHRYSALIS Group, the music publishing to media services group that sold its record division to Thorn EMI last year, has bounced back into the black and confirmed plans to return to the record, business with the launch of a new label after March.

The sale of the rest of Chrysalis's loss-making label to Thorn EMI for £11.6 million was mainly responsible for group pre-tax profits of £5.63 million in the year to end-August, compared with a £9.33 million loss. Chrysalis sold the remainder of the label to Thorn EMI in November last year after forming

a joint venture with Thorn in 1989. To boost the group's proposed return to the record business. Chris Wright, Chrysalis's founder and chairman, has recruited Steve Lewis, former managing director of Virgin Music Publishing. Mr Lewis left Virgin when Richard Brarison sold it to Thorn this year.

"We've got a very good shot at rebuilding a major record company. Hopefully we will learn from past mistakes, especially from moving into the US," Mr Wright said.

Despite the revived figures. he said the year had started slowly although trade was

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improving "Trading condi-tions have remained very difficult in many divisions throughout the period, severely impairing performance."

Operating losses rose to £4.79 million (£1.94 million), on turnover of £66 million (£68.3 million). The main reason for the deepening losses was the amusement machines operation, where the recession and margin erosion are blamed for losses of about £3 million (£2 million).

There was a tax credit of £1.45 million (£645,000). Earnings were 26.02p a share (30.06p loss). There is again

Standard property sells for £136m

By NEIL BENNETT BANKING CORRESPONDENT

STANDARD Chartered has raised an additional £136 million from the sale of a portfolio of properties in the Far East, including its head office in Hong Kong.

Standard has now raised £200 million from property sales in the past week equivalent to a one-for-six rights issue. The bank has made a profit of about £100 million on the disposals, offsetting the losses it made this summer in the Bombay stock market fraud.

Standard is raising £74 million from the sale of most of its remaining interests in its Hong Kong head office in Des Voeux Road. The cost of the bank's lease on the building was only £2 million, since Standard has held the site

since the last century.

The property will still be called the Standard Chartered building for another 20 years, while Standard will retain ownership of its branch on the ground floor and the neigh-bouring retail space. A spokesman said that the sale did not mean the bank was weakening its ties with Hong Kong.

The bank is also selling its manager's house in Malaysia for £20 million, and several managers' houses in Singa-pore for £40 million. The Malaysian sale paves the way for Standard to float a minority stake in its Malaysian subsidiary before October 1994 to comply with local law.

The sales boost Standard's capital ratios to more than 10 per cent and allow it to increase its balance sheet by about £3.5 billion.

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Sotheby's and Christie's increase auction sales

SOTHEBY'S and Christie's, the world's two largest fine art auctioneers, have announced increased auction sales in the year to December 22. Sotheby's reported sales of £674 million (£639 million) compared with £631 million (£583 million) at Christie's.

The figures do not include private treaty sales. In the important autumn season, Sotheby's reported sales of £318 million (£290 million). Christie's saw sales rise 17 per cent to £312 million. Competition between the two houses has led to £312 million. Christie's has made 60 records. Christmas redundancies. Christie's has made 60 people redundant. Since 1990, its workforce has been reduced by 20 per cent and costs have been cut by E32 million. Sotheby's has shed 10 interest and costs have been cut by E32 million. shed 10 jobs and plans more cuts.

Europtics to open plant

UP to 180 jobs could be created by an optical components factory due to open at Whiston, Merseyside, in September next year. The plant will be operated by Europtics, a joint venture company owned by BICC, the British cables and construction group, and Japanese companies, Furukawa, the cable manufacturer, and NTT, the telecommunications company. The main product will be the MT connector, which is used for optical fibre inter-connection in telecommunications and data communications. tions and data communications.

Albrighton buys quarries

ALBRIGHTON, the quarrying group, is buying Tarmac's sandstone business, comprising five quarries in Derbyshire and the North of England, for £3.21 million. The acquisition and the North of England, for E3.21 million. The acquisition will be funded from a £4.96 million rights issue of shares at 12p. Existing shares rose 2p to 12p. Albrighton reported a pre-tax loss of £62,000 in the six months to end-September (£347,000 loss), with a 1p loss per share (5.5p loss). There is again no dividend. Tarmac said the sale raised the total from its disposal programme this year to £130 million.

Upton plans share issue

UPTON and Southern, the department store and property group facing severe financial difficulties, is proposing to raise £785,000 through a deeply discounted share issue. The company disclosed that its liabilities outweigh its assets by more than £1.7 million and it has bank debts of £5.9 million. New funds are being raised by way of a firm placing of 65 million shares with financial institutions and an open offer of 36.07 million new shares. The equity is priced at 1p, a sharp discount to the existing shares, which trade at 5p.

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EC merger policy takes wrong turn

ne of the most significant appointments in yesterday's reshuffle of European commissioners was that of Belgium's Karel van Miert, who will succeed Sir Leon Brittan as the competition commissioner. Sir Leon actually believed in the sort of competition policy operated in Britain or by Germany's cartel office, yet failed to deliver one. Mr van Miert, an affable socialist

previously in charge of transport, has tended to the corporatist view and is unlikely even to try.

The very purpose of competition policy is disputed within the Community. The issue is not intervention but whether policy should operate independently on its own terms or become an arm of industrial policy. The Anglo-Saxon view is that the competition directorate should stop companies creating dominant market positions and crack down on abuses of market power. The Latin mercantilist faction reckons the commission should bolster an EC company's, or even an industry's, competitiveness.

There is likewise no agreement that the policy,

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once agreed, should operate free of political inteference. EC vetting of competition and mergers works under a shroud of secrecy. Political factors have had an ever-larger bearing on individual cases, much as Sir Leon has sometimes tried to resist them. This greatly increases uncertainty and moral hazard.

This is bad news when the commission is inevitably, trying to accrue more power to the centre. The first thing Mr van Miert should do is to scrap Sir Leon's recent proposal to lower the thresholds at which the commission has first right to vet mergers. Experience so far suggests the thresholds should be raised much higher, leaving the EC to vet only mergers that are so large and sensitive that politics is bound to play some part anyway. He can also defuse rows by passing back many more competition cases to national level. Most of all, Mr van Miert should carry on where Sir Leon failed and work towards some agreement on the purpose, and limitations, of an EC-wide competition policy.

Takeoff delayed

ritish Airways' shareholders should not be as sad as airline passengers that the American administration has vetoed its attempt to take a dominant stake in troubled USAir. The deal was costly and inferior to the proposed merger with KLM, which would have brought Northwest Airlines into a global network, but broke down over some fancy Dutch ideas on terms. A revival of those talks looks appealing but affairs have moved on, most notably through BA's investment in Qantas. More likely is a humbler deal for BA to take up to 25 per cent of USAir at a much lower cost. This would still enable integration of networks and marketing, without helping USAir so decisively to improve its finances and competitive strength. The lower cost to BA, which already has many commitments on its plate, if not its balance sheet, might leave its investment less secure.

For travellers, an opportunity has been lost to break down formal protection in America and the informal British stranglehold over Heathrow and other domestic airports through possesssion of a limited number of landing slots. One refusal to stretch a point inevitably invites another in this most political of industries, whatever the good intentions claimed for both governments. The regrets of United Airlines, one of the strongest public opponents of the USAir deal, are notable. BA naturally does not want its Heathrow business handed to foreign competitors. any more than it appreciated its traffic being given to smaller British airlines. An empty Stansted could offer an alternative hub to be adopted and built up by the big three American carriers, were they so minded.

Bank of England looks to investors in gilts to win the deficit battle

Janet Bush says that money markets staff

must steel their

nerves for the

biggest financing job since the 1970s

n September 16, it was the Bank of England's money markets staff who were pushed over the top of the trenches and into front-line warfare with the financial markets. The day when the Bank's paymasters in Whitehall saw their exchange-rate mechanism policy bite the dust, was a fearsome test of nerves.

But there is a more gruelling campaign ahead — financing the huge budget deficit racked up during the recession. It's the Bank's job to find enough investors willing to lend the government the estimated El billion a week that will be needed.

The Bank, more than ever before, is going to need the co-operation of its foot-soldiers in the light to finance the deficit — the men and women of the gilt-edged market. This arcane world of steepening yield curves, "eights of 2009" and reverse yield gaps will take centre stage in the effort to manage Britain's parlous financial position until recovery bails it out.
Forecasters generally agree the

public sector borrowing requirement will hit at least £44 billion in fiscal 1993-4, about 7 per cent of gross domestic product. This assumes the Treasury gets the 1 per cent growth rate it is expecting next year, which is more optimistic than many private forecasts. Britain has not seen this large a financing job since the 1970s fiscal crisis, when the International Monetary Fund was called in.

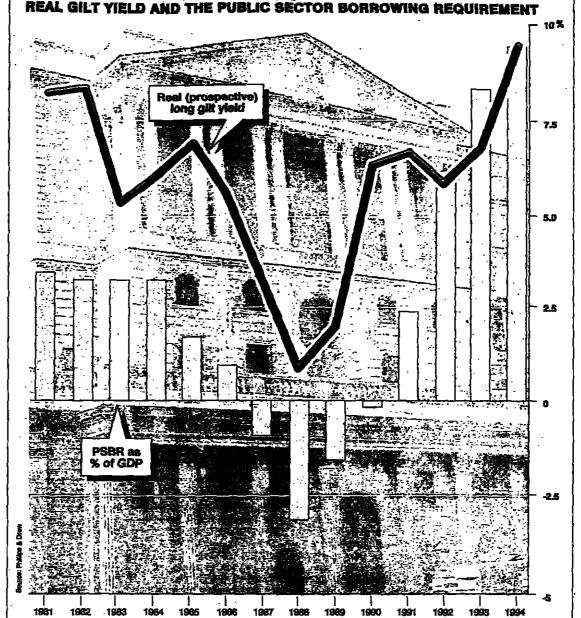
Many of the world's richest nations are running large deficits. But, alone among them, Britain relies exclusively on sales of sterling bonds to finance its shortfall, putting a huge burden on the gilt market.

Most market estimates suggest the Bank of England will have to issue about £50 billion of gilts next year. Gilt-edged market-makers are privately expressing deep concern that this could disrupt and weaken the market, and are calling for the Bank to adapt its current practice of issuing gilts to the market.

It has been working on an informal timetable of bi-monthly gilt auctions, supplemented with ad hoc taps and tranches sold into pockets of demand. John Shepperd, of Warer things, the Bank should move to

monthly auctions. The current bi-monthly sales have never exceeded the Bank's informal limit of £3 billion. But, if next year's forecasts are correct, about £6 billion would have to be sold at each auction, too much for many in the gilt market to feel comfortable with. Clearly, the market is concerned for its own financial health. With £6 billion auctions, many of them would either have to supplement their capital or

But the main interest of the Bank is



to keep down the cost of funding for the government and that means maximum flexibility in the timing of gilt sales and the techniques used. Although the Bank is aware of the market's concerns, it appears to have no immediate plans for change. It believes it has a good track record on tailoring the array of gilts on offer to the various demands of investors and a good sense of timing.

The Bank sees the next year as a marketing challenge, not a crisis. Nevertheless, according to Michael Hughes, chief investment strategist at BZW: The Bank will need every mck in the book

As the deluge of gilts starts flooding on to the market, there are bound to be tensions between the needs of the market, already weathering fiercely competitive conditions, and the Bank's interests.

The Bank may want to retain maximum flexibility in how it sells its gilts but it cannot afford to lose the goodwill of market-makers. Many of them want to know how the Bank is going to schedule all the necessary gilt sales. Ian Shepherdson, of Mid-land Global Markets, said: "With this much supply, the market has a right to know how it is going to work."

However, although there has been some wild talk of "buyers strikes". there is no question that the deficit will be financed. The big question is whether the Bank will be able to keep the cost of funding down. First, however good at its job the Bank may be, it might not always be able to push out stock when market conditions are best suited and its cost of borrowing will be higher.

r Shepperd said: "If the market weakens, if inflation figures, the government can't stop the conveyor belt because it will get behind. And if it gets behind, it gets into trouble." An even more fundamental question is whether there will be enough demand. The amount of gilts to be sold next year is much larger than total expected British institutional cash flow, estimated at about £35

billion. Theoretically, if there is a deficit in the public sector, there will be a matching surplus in the private sector to finance it. The challenge for the

Bank will be in identifying where that money is and luring it into gilts. One source of extra money could be private individuals. As interest rates on building society deposits, for example, have fallen, so individuals have become more active in gilts,

even at longer maturities where the

yields are higher. However, individual investors are never going to be able to plug the gap alone and overseas investment becomes ever more important. In 1991, foreigners were substantial buyers of gilts, but, over the past year, their net purchases have been negligible. The

as to see them come back in Much will depend on economic conditions - notoriously difficult to predict and subject to fierce debate. The judge and jury of the gilt market is a view of inflationary trends and, after sterling's abrupt departure from the ERM, forecasting them is a stab in the dark.

Two of the largest gilts houses held conferences within a week of each other in November. Midland Global Markets predicted that long-dated vields would drop from 834 per cent to 74 per cent over the course of next year, a forecast based on the view that

inflation will remain subdued next year. A week later, Warburg Securities predicted yields rising to 93 per cent because of a less optimistic view on inflation. The difference between such forecasts represents a huge cost

or saving to the government.

Another imponderable is what happens to inflation and interest rates in countries competing for international investment funds. If rates fall in Europe next year, for example, British yields may become more attractive by standing still. What is clear is that the government has no choice but to offer yields attractive enough to lure unprecedented levels of investment.

However the economic chips fall next year, experience suggests that yields have moved in close tandem with government finances. When the deficit is high, yields rise too. That is damaging for two main reasons. First, the government has to pay more to borrow - an unwelcome burden on the taxpayer, particularly at a time when talk of tax increases is in the air. Second, and far more important, if the economy is to come back to health, higher yields threaten to "crowd out" borrowing by com-panies as it did in the 1970s. At a time when there is an insatiable thirst for investment funds around the world, the need to suck so much money into the gilt market will inevitably starve other sectors of the funds they need.

Everything depends on recovery gradually bringing the deficit down. One year of heavy funding may not be too onerous, particularly as Britain is expected to come out of recession just as competitor nations in Europe, for example, are going in. What would be alarming is years of slow growth and huge deficits.

Mr Shepherdson said: "The gilt market needs to see credible figures showing that the PSBR is coming down. They can't cope with the deficit going on rising into the wild blue

If it does, many believe the government may have to abandon its policy of "fully funding" the PSBR. This rule adopted by the monetarist mandarins at the Treasury in the 1980s means that gilt sales have to match the PSBR pound for pound. Gilt sales to banks, for example, do not count as funding. The idea is that the monetary authorities have a huge degree of control over the amount of liquidity in the economy, a useful tool

in monitoring inflation.
Underfunding the PSBR — selling less gilts than needed to finance the whole borrowing requirement and making up the difference by lending to banks - would pump more uidity into the econom policy advocated by many, including Professor Tim Congdon, one of the Treasury's new panel of economic advisers, not least as a potent force for

Many in the gilt market want to see underfunding because it would re-lieve some of the pressure on them. The Treasury remains reluctant to change its policy, but, under the weight of massive financing requirements in a world where investment funds are ever more thinly spread, it may find it will have to borrow wherever it can.

Pension compensation law needed

From Mr Colin Stewart Sir. It does not surprise me that the NAPF had to back down on its proposal for a compensation scheme for pensioners, but that does not mean that it is not a good idea. If the Life Offices Association (as it then was) had made a similar proposal for compensating life assurance policyholders in 1975, the members of that body, too, would have been up in arms. Quite properly, it was left to the government to introduce the Policyholders' Protection Act 1975, but that followed on after new statutory requirements for ensuring adequate funding and the security of

policyholders' assets. What is now required is similar legislation to ensure adequacy of pension scheme funding and security of the corresponding assets. After that, it should be possible to introduce a Pensioners' Protection Scheme which may be expected to operate as painlessly as the Policyholders' Protection Scheme in life assurance. It is my understanding that there has been only one relatively modest claim under that scheme in the past 17 years. Yours faithfully, COLIN STEWART. 8 The Chase, Coulsdon.

Simple retaliation against imported turkeys

From Mr Philip Virgo Sir, Mrs Nicholas's lament at British turkey growers' inabil-ity to retaliate against the decision to fill Argyll shelves with dumped French turkeys is unnecessarily pessimistic. I am not a turkey grower but I switched to Asda when I read the article "Argyll offers

That article stimulated me into making a general point of Buying British this Christmas admittedly counting Aus-

tralian and New Zealand wines as British. Regrettably. this necessitates checking "country of origin" on goods bearing brand names from stores which supposedly make a point of Buying British.

The exercise may have cost time but has not cost money. I've spent less than last year. sacrificed no quality and learned much in the process. Yours faithfully. PHILIP VIRGO, 2 Eastbourne Avenue, W3.

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Midland listens but does not tell

From Mr Ivor Clemitson Sir, I do hope that the Chancellor was more successful in getting answers from the chairman of the Midland Bank than I have been.

After being subjected to a number of charges by the said bank, I enquired as to how the amounts charged could be justified. I was told that they were to cover the costs incurred by the bank. I then, I thought reasonably, asked for a breakdown of those costs. The branch manager replied that he was not privy to such information. A letter to the chairman elicited a reply from a lady deputed to act on his behalf that it was not the bank's policy to impart the information. I then, by chance, received a leaflet from the managing director in which it was stated that the bank would be as honest with me as I was with them. Taking him up on his generous commitment, I made the same request of him. His representative replied that the bank was not required to give me

the information. I further asked for a reassurance that since, apparently, the charges were levied to cover costs, it was reasonable for me to assume that no element of either profit to the bank nor penalty upon me was contained within them. All three were, it seems, unable to follow my logic, since all have ignored the question

Yours faithfully, IVOR CLEMITSON, 3 Redcote. 51 Burgh Heath Road. Surrey.

> Letters can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.



Family link ends at Inchcape

THE new year will see the end

of an era at Inchcape, the international motors and services group, when the last of the founding Mackay family, Lord Tanlaw, steps down as a director. His half-brother, Lord Inchcape, who in 1958 brought together the various partnerships that made Inchcape, continues as life president However, from January I, there will be no board member bearing the name of their grandfather, who founded the firm. Now, somewhat confusingly, the only Mackay remaining will be Charles Mackay, chief executive, a fellow clansman but not part of the family. Meanwhile, Tanlaw, 58, UK managing director in the 1960s, has been reflecting on his own varied career. He stood for parliament three times, and, in his spare time, is a keen horologist, looking after Big Ben for a spell. "It is sad that the family connection will be gone, but my own company needs me full time," he says. That company is Fanstan Electric, a railway engineering specialist whose projects for

1993 include the electrification of the Jubilee Line in partnership with GEC. SIR George Turnbull, the man who brought Inchcape up to speed with the times, died yesterday. He had been in ill health for several months. Sir George, 66, joined as chairman and chief

for health reasons.

executive in 1986 and stepped

down in November last year



"I don't care if it did work out cheaper than Christmas

Bear necessities IN KEEPING with the festive spirit, Kleinwort Benson has put a large grizzly bear on the front cover of its new traded options and futures handbook and is offering a bottle of champagne to the client offering the best caption. The bear has a mournful demeanour but KB's John Price says it is not a statement about his house's market view. "We just thought it was a bit of fum. He's a rather a special bear." Far from being bearish, KB is expanding into continental equity options and futures and has just raided rival Warburg to recruit salesman Nigel Couch, 30.

Flurry of interest

THE most employable people in the City at the moment according to head hunter Nicholas Cobbold, of Knight

Wendling — are international fixed interest fund managers. He has just received five requests to find people in this field, all likely to be in their thirties and with basic salaries on offer ranging from £70,000 to £100,000. "There is definitely a flurry of activity in the international fixed interest arena," he observes, "and I think it's going to be an active market for the next few years. It helps if you have overseas experience, particularly in the US or Far East. Firms are becoming much broader in their outlook, much more international."

Bouncing back

STEPHEN Clapham, one of the casualties of the purge at Nomura in October, has bounced back. He will start work at Crédit Lyonnais next month. He will cover his old beat researching the transport sector while adding a new in-terest, conglomerates. Clapham started his City career at Hoare Govett, where he was rated fourth in transport, before shifting to Nomura to cover the electricity industry sell-off. Crédit Lyonnais has been recruiting a number of able researchers in recent weeks, in areas such as smaller companies, engineering and insurance. According to Clapham, this could have something to do with its un-usual interviewing technique - while most houses are keen to see examples of the interviewee's research. CL is the only one in his experience to

CAROL LEONARD

proffer examples of its own

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- OIL DRILLING EQUIPMENT
- COMPUTERS
- CONTAINERS
- CONSTRUCTION AND CAPITAL EQUIPMENT

In addition, Bell Atlantic Foreign Sales Corporation, provides general equipment: leasing services, in the small ticket and middle market areas for vendors and users of copiers, telecommunications and data processing systems, and a wide range of other income producing equipment.

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BELL ATLANTIC FOREIGN SALES CORPORATION Suite 208, Citibank Building Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00801

Shine comes off metals during 1992

Colin Campbell explains why it

has been hard to

make money in

mining shares

MINING markets and metal prices were full of pitfalls during 1992. With the exception of platinum. which proved to be the best-performing precious metal, and Canadian diamond shares, which have lately enjoyed a speculative run, it was hard to make money in the sector.

Gold started the year at \$353 an ounce and yester-day stood at \$339. Copper. aluminium, and tin managed to end higher. But zinc and nickel are below their year's starting points. With world inflation seemingly under control, and political events no longer exercising a strong influence on precious met-

als, investors continued to show boredom with gold. Not even September's foreign exchange crisis won the metal new friends. Fears of South African mine disruption also failed to materialise.

In January, the market's best hope was that gold would reach \$450 an ounce during 1992. In the event, \$359.25 in mid-July, and by mid-October was down at \$333.95 an ounce.

The thinking of Tempus in January, when five mining shares were selected for a 1992 portfolio, was that they would be survivors in an uncertain world. At that time, there was still excess capacity and industrial demand was weak.

The outcome is that the big and established mining groups — RTZ and Phelps Dodge — have served investors well, and that Sons of Gwalia also held its head up creditably. The two smaller Irish metals groups. Arcon International Resources (which changed its name from Conroy Petroleum during tion, failed to make head-way by year's end. The portfolio still managed an average appreciation of 7.3

per cent RTZ The group's philos-ophy about surviving, and growing in the world of mining says it all — to be a significant owner and operator within a particular minerals sector, and to have the lowest possible cost structure.

The group's financial disciplines and overall mining efficiency make the share a core holding. Although 1992 net attributable profits, at a possible £343 million — compared with £354 million in 1991 would be the second successive setback, the annual dividend is undoubt-

edly safe at 19.5p.
There is the distinct hint of a profits recovery in 1993, possibly to £420 mil-lion, and probably a higher dividend, too.

Pheips Dodge The copper price inched forward from 98 to 100 cents a pound during 1992, and there is every prospect that copper could move forward iter next year, to average 110 cents a pound for the year. The group is America's largest copper group, and politically safe. Hold Sons of Gwalia Still liked by London investors

HOW WE FARED

Tempus mining tips for 1992

Phelps Dodge +44.97 Sons of Gwalia +20.25 -29.63 Arcon*

Average growth +7.3

*formerty Conray

for its gold properties in Australia and for its mine grades. Gold in 1993 may again fail to excite, yet the shares should continue to attract a following.

Arcon International Having survived a boardroom coup, and now that the O'Reilly family is a major shareholder, attention can again be focused on getting the group's Galmoy zinc/lead deposit up and running. The shares sank to 23p at one point. but should have seen bottom. Hold on.

group has exploration links with Sipa Resources, but mining projects are still in their infancy and the shares retain their speculative

Mining selections for 1993 will be published shortly.

> COLIN CAMPBELL Mining Correspondent

> > Scox Rydro 542,
> > Scot & New 424
> > Scot Power 799
> > Sears 3,600
> > Svm Trem 1,200
> > Shell Trans 4,600
> > Slebe 2,100
> > Smith Neb 5,500
> > Smith (WH) 575
> > Sthrn Elec 1,700
> > Sun Alince 3,500
> > Ti Gp 9940
> > Tise 1,700
> > Tace & Lyle 4,200
> > Thames W 1,300
> > Thirm EMI 1,000

Tarn EMI 1,000
Tornkins 5,400
Unilever 1,400
Unil Bisc 986
Vodafone 1,800
Wellcome 1,800
Whithd 'A' 1,700
Wilms Hid 3,500

LIFFE OPTIONS

FT-SE INDEX (*E284314)

Hong Kong: Hang Seng Amsterdam: CBS Tendency Sydney: AO. Frankfurt:

FT-SE VOLUMES

Land Secs 993 Legal & Ga 582 Lloyds Bk 3,100 MB Cardn 884 Marks Spr 11,000 NEC 2,900

Maris Spr 11,000
NFC 2,900
Nat West Bk
Nat Power 1,300
Nth West W 1,800
Nth Mest W 1,800
Pearson 2,700
Pearson 2,700
Prudential 4,700
Rank Org 1,600
Recidiar Col 1,000
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Cours Vyla 4,200
Cm Union 1,300
Courtailds 765
De La Rue 942
Eng China 3,100
Enterpr Oil 3,000
GRE 3,900
GUS A 461
Gen Acc 1,600
Gen Elec 6,300
Glazo 4,700
Granada 3,600
Granad 2,500
Granad Met 2,500
Guinness 12,000
HSBC 11,000
Hanson 15,000
ICI 1,000
Inchcape 1,100
Kingdisher 2,100

De La Rue 942
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Forre 13,000
GRE 3,900
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Gen Elec 6,300
Glaxo 4,700
Granada 3,600
Grand Met 2,500
Guinness 1,200
HSBC 11,000
HSBC 11,000
Hanson 15,000
ICI 1,000
Ringfisher 2,100
Rwik Save 573
LASMO 8,900
Ladbroke 23,000

agilan W 441
rgyil Gp 2,100
rjo Wig 962
lib Foods 101
lAA 2,400
lAT IndS 2,300
SET 5,800
STR 4,300
STR 4,300
STR 4,300
Bix of Scot 1,100
Bardays 1,800
Bass 1,500
Biue Circle 2,100
Boots 2,300
Brit Airwys 5,900
Brit Gas 3,300
Brit Gas 3,300
Brit Gas 3,800

Futures trading inspires yet another record run

SHARE prices extended their record-breaking run, squeezed higher by another impressive performance on the futures

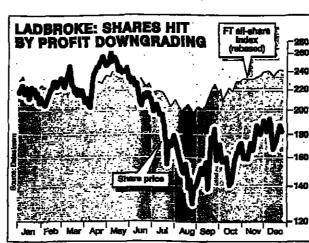
The FT-SE 100 index recovered from a hesitant start and continued to grow in confidence throughout the session, closing near the best of the day with a rise of 34.3 to an all-time high of 2,842. Turnover was another impressive 815 million shares, only slightly down on Monday's total of 833 million.

But it was the futures market that once again made all the early running as investors continued to take an optimistic view of economic prospects for 1993. The March series continued to boast a strong premium compared with the cash market, touching 2,891 at one stage.

One New York securities

house was a big buyer of the future, forcing traders to start covering their positions. There were certainly indications of large-scale arbitraging be-tween the cash and futures market. Bed and breakfast operations designed to establish year-end tax losses and the squaring up of fund manager's portfolios also helped to swell turnover.

Conditions in the cash mar-ket are also looking squeezed and the situation is being excerbated by the lack of sellers. But there is evidence to indicate that investors with genuine retail interest in the market are increasingly focusing their attention on second line stocks. The FT-SE Mid index of 250 top shares ended the session 28 points higher at



shrugged off the latest trade figures and drew strength from the latest out in Italian interest rates. Dealers reported renewed retail interest, with supplies of one of the three recently issued taplets exhausted. The longer end of the market sported gains of more than £12. British Airways

issues being quoted, including RAT Industries, up 15p at £10.09. Renters 20p better at £14.12, and Unilever 21p higher at £11.08. Redland attracted selective support in the belief that 1993 will signal the year of recovery. On Monday, Strauss Turnbull listed it.

Bid hopes drove the A shares of Savoy, the hotelier, 83p higher to 713p in thin market conditions. The price has risen 156p in the past two days and talk of an agreed bid from Forte is gathering pace. Forte owns the bulk of the shares in issue, but only a minority of votes. Talk that Forte may choose to place its holding is adding to the speculation.

climbed 5p to 307p after as one of its share tips for the pulling out of the proposed \$750 million link with USAir. new year, while Kleinwort Benson yesterday turned de-BA has agreed to buy a 25 per cidedly more bullish about prospects. Kleinwort says cent stake in Qantas, the there is now a good chance that the 1994 dividend will be Australian state-owned airline, which is soon to be privatised. There was limited maintained helped by a pickup in the British and German support for other leading building industries. The shares, with fund managers taking the view that many of shares responded with a rise of them are starting to look fully 34p to 424p, for a two-day gain of 53p. But there seems

Ladbroke, the property, betting and hotel group, as analysts continue cutting their

County NatWest weighed in yesterday with its second downgrading in the space of a week. It has cut its forecast for the current year by £10 million to £185 million and for next year by £18 million to £212 million. It is now at the bottom end of estimates.

Trading at Texas Homecare and the chain of Hilton overseas hotels continues to be disappointing. The pound's devaluation has also caused problems for the group which has a large amount of

overseas debt.
Mallett, the Bond Street antiques dealer, jumped 19p to 73p on news that the group had received a bid approach.
The bidder is thought to be Asprey, the Queen's silver-smith and jeweller, which has acquired almost 7 per cent of the company. Mallett slumped to a low of 23p this year after disappointing fig-ures. House of Fraser holds 25 per cent of Mallett. Asprey, which is quoted on the USM,

firmed 5p to 290p.
Shares of Star Computer
were suspended 5p higher at 47p awaiting details of a major acquisition. Airtours touched 269p before recovering to end the session 2p lower at 275p after being given approval to proceed with its bid for Pickfords Travel Service. But sentiment has been dented by the package holiday price war that has broken out. Owners Abroad was another casualty, easing 2p to 85p.

MICHAEL CLARK

SHORTS (under 5 years) LONGS (over 15 years)

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	Redland 424p (+34	
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	RCO 375p (+10)	
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l	CBS Tendency 105.7 (+1.3) Sydney: AO 1530.1 (-7.0)	FT Gold Mines	US Treasury Bond Previous open interes: 765	Mar 93 Jun 93	105-04	105-04	105-04	105-02 103-30	100	
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Investor confidence gives Dow early lift

New York — Shares were higher in early trading, lifted by growing investor confi-dence that the American economy is improving, analysts

They said that a final revision of the third-quarter gross domestic product - to a growth rate of 3.4 per cent compared with 3.9 per cent previously - had helped sentiment. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 9.72 points to 3,322.18.

☐ Tokyo — Shares ended firmer in thin, narrow-range trading. The Nikkei average was up 45.23 points, or 0.26 per cent, to 17,690.67. ☐ Hong Kong — Institutional

orders outweighed mild profittaking to give Hong Kong shares their second gain in as many days, although turnover was thin, brokers said. The Hang Seng index closed up 55.26 points, at 5,297.74. ☐ Singapore — Share prices closed lower due to profittaking in blue chips by foreign institutions, brokers said. The Straits Times industrial index. fell 22.33 points to 1,489.16.

Sydney - The All Ordinaries finishedseven points down, at 1.530.1. ☐ Frankfurt — The Dax index ended 0.5 per cent up, at 1,523.57, six points off its

(Reuter)

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WONEY MARKETS Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 79.6 (day's range 79.6-80.1). STERENG SPOT AND FORWARD RATES OTHERSTERLING DOLLAR SPOT RATES

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Record-breaking run goes on

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 14. Dealings and December 31. §Contango day January 4, Settlement day January 11. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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Further appeal delays forecast

Annual Review of the Legal Year 1991-1992 Unless measures were taken, such as the extending the requirement of leave to appeal and increasing the number of Lord Justices, litigants would suffer further delays in the disposals of appeals.

Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, sitting with Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Steyn in the Court of Appeal so stated on December 16 handing down the review of the

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS opened his review with a tribute to the irangination, managerial skills and willingness to innovate which his predecessor.

Lord Donaldson of Lymington, had brought to bear on the administration of the court. During his decade in office the nisation and administration of the court were greatly improved

However, the pessimistic prognosis given in his last review (The Times November 28, 1991) had been borne out.

With regard to appeals: the period 1991-1992 revealed a relatively gradual but very steady increase over the period in the number of appeals outstanding at the end of the legal year. In 1991 the number had been 1,135, in 1992, 1,214. The number of appeals disposed of had dropped from 1,532 in 1990-1991 to 1,515 in 1991-1992. The decline in the number of appeals disposed of was of acute concern. It seemed likely that a contributory factor over the years had been an increase in the weight of appeals and therefore in the time taken to hear and dispose of

While it was not easy to quantify weight and complexity, figures showed that the court had found it necessary to reserve judgment, a recessary in teacher judgment, a course usually adopted in more difficult and complex cases, in 29.87 per cent of cases, whereas the figure in 1985-1986 was 15.18 per cent.

The average time lag, the lead time, between setting down an appeal and its disposal varied according to the type of appeal.
While delays had increased in some classes of appeal there had been a degree of overall shorten-

There had, however, been a marked increase in the number of appeals which had had to be heard with great urgency if the outcome were not to be academic only. The court made every effort to hear such appeals urgently and usually succeeded in doing so. But such appeals brought down the

average lead time very substantially. The increase in such cases had had an effect on the figures, so that despite the encouraging impression given by the figures many lingants would have to wait longer not shorter for their appeals to be

His Lordship said that overall

72.1 per cent as oppposed to 27.9 ner cent which succ The success rate of appeals was markedly higher where leave to

appeal was required. That was not surprising since leave would be granted in cases where the judge considered that the prospective appellant had arguable grounds of ppeal. It seemed clear that the require-

ment of leave to appeal was a valuable means of weeding out appeals with no realistic prospect

With regard to applications, the volume of work was that in 1992 1,403 applications were disposed of as opposed to 1,377 in 1991. But the number of applications set down in 1992 was 1,648 as opposed to 1,376 in 1991. However, until the past year increases in the number of applications disposed of roughly matched increases in the number of applications set

Throughout the legal year three Lord Justices had sat in the Court of Appeal Criminal Division and two had sat in the Divisional Court. At any time therefore the judicial strength of the Civil Division was reduced by five. One member of the court was

engaged on an enquiry lasting virtually the entire legal year. Two Lord Justices acted as deputy chief justice and senior presiding judge while others had duties connected with security and iudicial studies. All such duties

The court had no control over the number of actions brought or the number of dissatisfied parties who wished to appeal. If that number stayed at its present level,

number stayed at its present level, and still more so if it increased, the outlook was bleak.

Far from eating into the backlog of cases, the court was losing ground and the backlog was growing, with the inevitable consequence of increased delay for litigants.

There would appear to be only e ways of reversing that trend: I To increase the number of cases heard by the court. That means reducing the time spent on each appeal, or on some appeals. Steps had already been taken in that direction by pre-reading, and skel-eton arguments. Further steps were under consideration.

2 To reduce the number of appeals by extending the present require-ments for leave to appeal. Experi-ence suggested that that could be done with a minimal risk of excluding appeals with any chance

3 To increase the number of Lord

The latter two considerations were for political not judicial decision. It seemed unlikely that the problem could be solved by the adoption of any single course in isolation. It seemed that some combination of all three could alone offer the hope that the present disquieting trends could be

Estoppel cannot be bought out

Roche v Church Before Lord Justice Balcombe. Lord Justice Mann and Lord

Justice Leggatt [Judgment December 4] Where the solicitor for the defendant had, by agreeing directions plaintiff a belief that his action would proceed, it was not then open to the defendant to "buy out" the estoppel which had been

created to compensate the defendant for costs incurred. The Court of Appeal so held when allowing an appeal by Patrick Joesph Roche, the plaintiff. against the dismissal by Judge Hywell Museley, QC, on December 17, 1991 of his appeal from the dismissal by District Judge Frenkel on January 2, 1991 for want of prosecution of the plaintiff's action against Dudley Arthur Church and Vera Blanche Church.

Mr Leslie Blohm for Mr Roche; Mr Graeme C. Wood for Mr and

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE said that upon the settled prin-tiples laid down in County and District Properties v Lyell [1991] 1 WLR 683), the conduct of the defendants' former solicitor on behalf of Mr and Mrs Church "more or less" agreeing directions with the plaintiff's solicitor outside court before the hearing of the plaintiff's summons was positive action which had amounted to an intimation that, despite delay by the plaintiff, he was willing for the Mr Roche to believe, and to act upon that belief, that Mr and Mrs Church did in fact intend to nmosed to trial.

Judge Moseley had been correct in holding that an estoppel had been created which deprived him of any discretion to strike out the

But Judge Moseley had accepted submissions by Mr and Mrs Church that the estoppel in question was not common law estoppel but equitable estoppel which gave him a discretion to do what was just and equitable in the circumstances.

He held that if the only detri-ment suffered by Mr Roche was expense and that there was an enforceable promise by Mr and Mrs Church to recompense him, then there was no estoppel which precluded Mr and Mrs Church application to strike out for want of

The Court of Appeal in Lyell did not draw any distinction between common law and equitable estoppel. The court was applying the principles of general estoppel by analogy to the principles ap-plicable to striking out for want of The decision of Lyell allowed no

ossibility of Mr and Mrs Church buying out the estoppel once it had been established that Mr Roche had incurred expense in reliance on their representation which was

LORD JUSTICE MANN.

agreeing, said that Mr Roche had conceded that he, or rather his then solicitor, had been guilty of inexcusable and inordinate delay. Judge Moseley had found that in was a substantial risk that a fair trial of the issues was not possible.

In dismissing an action on the ground of delay and consequent risk the court was acting in the exercise of its discretion to dismiss an action for want of prosecution. The discretionary jurisdiction to dismiss was one which could be invoked only by a defendant and upon him rested the hurden of demonstrating the delay, its quality and the consequent risk.

Mr and Mrs Church would have discharged their burden and an of discretion so as to dismiss the action would have been inevitable had they been able, but for Lyell to invoke the jurisdiction of the court. A defendant could be estopped

from making an application to dismiss. Where a defendant was estopped then it had to be accented, despite public interest, that an unfair trial would or might

was conduct or positive action by a defendant which induced the plaintiff to act to his detriment. That conduct had to be such which when viewed objectively was inconsistent with both a present and a future intention to apply for LORD JUSTICE LEGGATT.

The estoppel arose where there

agreeing, said that the result did not seem to be entirely satisfactory. The defendants were precluded by operation of the doctrine of estop-pel from applying to have the stale claim against them struck out. To found an estoppel the conrepresentation had to be consisten

only with a promise on the part of

the defendants' solicitor to proceed to trial. It seemed more likely that when "more or less" agreed directions, the defendants' solicitor was simply overlooking the fact that he was in a position to apply to strike out the claim.

That a doctrine of equity should be allowed to operate so as to ensure that an unfair trial took judgment a travesty of justice.
Solicitors: J. W. Ward & Son.

The point taken by the prosecu-

tion on appeal was raised by the

crown court, had not been of the

applicant's making and had not

Nor had the applicant com-

been raised by the prosecution.

Grotesquely unjust costs order

Where the court allowed a prosecuthe crown count and made an order for costs against the defendant, neither present nor represented at the hearing of the case stated and in which she had not been asked whether she would consent to the appeal being allowed in her absence, it was

Canterbury City Council v grotesquely unjust to require that circumstances was in the last resort she should pay the costs in the a matter of impression.

High Court. Court (Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice Leonard) so held on October 14 allowing the application of Patricia Cook to set aside an order for costs made against her by the Divisional Court on March 5. LORD JUSTICE MANN said that what was or was not just in the

pleted giving evidence in the crown court as the proceedings natural" that a person should die payment, in respect of any right to

Limit on power to hold inquest

Regina v Poplar Coroner, Ex parte Thomas (Doris) Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Farquharson and Lord

Justice Simon Brown [Judgment December 15]

There was no general discretion in the Coroners Act 1988 or elsewhere for a coroner to hold an inquest in any circumstances in which he considered it to be in the public interest that an inquest should be held.

Accordingly, where the medical evidence showed the deceased, a lifelong asthma sufferer, died from a prolonged asthmatic attack, such an attack was a natural cause of death and not an unnatural death within section 8(1)(a) of the 1988 Act, notwithstanding evidence to the effect that had the deceased heen taken to hospital in time before cardiac arrest she would not have died.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing the appeal of the coroner. Mr Douglas Robert Chambers. against the decision of the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Jus tice Walkins and Mr Justice Tudor Evansi (The Times April 22, 1992; [1992] 3 WLR 485) which had allowed the application of the deceased's mother for judicial re-view and granted an order of indamus for an inquest to be

Mr Terence Coghlan for the coroner, Mr Edward Fitzgerald for the applicant

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the deceased was aged 17 when she died on April 9, 1989. After a severe attack at about 1.00am and an initial, abortive, call to the ambulance service, no ambulance arrived until about 1.33am, but she had stopped breathing a few moments before.
At the hospital attempts to resuscite her were abandoned at 1.55am.

The pathologist's report, ordered by the coroner, gave the cause of death as status asthmaticus. a prolonged asthmatic attack, and other evidence indicated that she would not have died if she had arrived at the emergency department before cardiac arrest and even if she had arrived within five minutes of such arrest there was a good chance of survival.

The family were naturally very concerned at the failure of the ambulance to arrive in time.

Since there was no disoute as to the cause of death and none of the alternatives in section 8(1) of the 1988 Act, setting out the circum-stances in which it was mandatory to hold an inquest, was remotely relevant, the only basis on which an inquest could be held would be if it could be said that because of the ambulance's late arrival, there was reasonable cause to suspect the deceased died an unnatural death.

His Lordship accepted the coroner's argument that "unnatural" in section 8(1) should be given its ordinary meaning; there was no context to suggest that its use there was in any unusual sense.

Instances of non-violent deaths which were none the less to be regarded as unnatural included those who died of industrial illness. In such cases the court was told an the illness took its course leading to death, the inception of the illness was from unnatural causes.

Inquests were invariably held on persons who died of legionnaires disease; it was regarded as "un-

there was nothing unnatural perse in a person dying of ustuma.

The concept of "lack of care", as interpreted in its technical and narrow sense in R v Southwark Coroner, Ex parte Hicks (1987) !

WLR 1624, 1633, 1637), which bulked somewhat large in the Divisional Court's judgment, had no relevance to the circumstances of the instant case since it could not be said that the decreased was in the he said that the deceased was in the 'care" of the ambulance service.

Whether the deceased's death was natural or unnatural had therefore to depend on what was the cause of death, and "causing" had to be given a common sense meaning: Alphacell Ltd v Woodward (1972) AC 824, 847).

It was easy to think of a number of different scenarios as a result of which an ambulance arrived too late to save a person who had suffered an asthma attack for example, the distance from the ambulance centre to the person's home was too great, or more traffic than normal in the locality causing delay, or the ambulance being

delay, or the amoutance being diverted on its journey. His Lordship did not know the cause of delay in the present case, but common sense indicated that what caused the death was the asthmatic attack and not one of the natural rause of death.

Divisional Court for concentrating on the medical cause of death to the exclusion of all other evidence was unjustified since he had said that, even when all the other evidence was taken into account, the cause of death was still the

asthma attack. Nor was it appropriate to criti-cise him for not asking himself whether the present case was an instance for a verdict of death aggravated by lack of care; the key question was not what the form of inquisition or verdict should be, but whether an inquest should be

It was suggested that recurrence of delay by the ambulance service in answering emergency calls was a maner of justified public concern, falling within section 8(3)(d), so that an inquest with a jury should

That might be so, but it did not answer the particular question before the court.

It did not follow that every case in which the death occurred in circumstances the continuance of which was prejudicial to the health or safety of a section of the public processority an unnatural death under section 8(1).

rule 42 of the Coroners Rules (S) 1984 No 552) expressly provided that no verdict should be tramed in such a way as to appear to determine any question of criminal liability on the part of a named person or civil liability. It was not the function of a coroner's inquest to provide a forum for attempts to gather evidence for pending or future

Lord Justice Farquharson LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that although "un-natural" was not used in any umusual sense, that did not mean that whether or not a particular

criminal or civil proceedings.

death was properly to be regarded as unnatural was a pure question Even ordinary words could have more than one usual sense and be capable of differing applications depending on the particular

His Lordship did not find the question of causation in the present context susceptible of the approach of the House of Lords in a very different context in cases such as McGhee v National Coal Board ([1973] | WLR | and Wilsher v Essex Area Health Authority (1988) AC 1074). where the possibility of there being more than one cause was im-

different; given that the coroner knew all the important facts, what view should be take of causes that might well be secondary but were

Why should he not sometimes find a death to be the result of two causes, either of which could serve to make it unnatural?

His Lordship did not suggest that the coroner was bound to take that view in the present case, but occasions could arise when it

would be the only approach. Indeed, if the late arrival of the ambulance had constituted a more extreme failure of the service than his Lordship believed it did, com-mon sense would dictate that the death was an unnatural death.

It was to be hoped and believed that grave failures, that is, culpable human failure on the part of those responsible for providing a reasonably efficient emergency service, of such services were an extreme

Congested traffic causing de layed arrivals were not rare and certainly could not as a matter of common sense be thought directly causative of the death such as to make it in the present context

It was true that the scope of what a coroner's inquisition might achieve by way of a formal result had gradually been whitted down over the years, but merely because the coroner's inquest might nowadays be thought lacking any very clear or cogent role was no sufficient reason for adopting too narrow an approach to section 8.

In the present case the coroner was entitled to reach the conclusion that he did and he could not be criticised for regarding the late arrival of the ambulance as insufficiently causative of death to alter its essential character.

Solicitors: Hempsons: Deighton

Sanctions prevent payment of bond after insolvency

Wahda Bank v Arab Bank plc Before Mr Justice Phillips

[Judgment December 11] It was unlawful to make a payment under a bond which related to a contract for the supply of goods prohibited under the Libya (United Nations Sanctions) Order (SI 1992 No 975) even though the company which had contracted to supply the goods was no longer

able by reason of insolvency to perform the supply contracts. Mr Justice Phillips so held in open court in the Queen's Bench Division after a hearing in chambers when ruling on a preliminary issue in a claim by the Wahda Bank for sums due under counter zuarantees issued in its Ezvour by

the Arab Bank plc. Article 10 of the 1992 Order

provides: "(I) Except under the authority of a licence granted by the secretary person shall make any payment to or to the order of any person connected with Libya under or in respect of a bond to which this do any act for the purpose of obtaining payment, or make any indemnity in respect of any bond to which this article applies...

(2) A bond to which this article applies is a bond given in respect of a contract the performance of which is unlawful, wholly or in

part, by virtue of this order. Mr Alan Boyle, QC and Mr Philip S. Marshall for the plaintiff; Mr John Jarvis, QC and Mr William Blair for the defendant MR JUSTICE PHILLIPS said

Murray Clayton Ltd had con-tracted in 1978 and 1979 to supply certain goods to the Libyan Armed Forces directorate of mili-The supply of such goods to Libya was prohibited by the 1992

On the instructions of the Arab Bank plc, a Jordanian bank with offices in the United Kingdom, the Wahda Bank, a Libyan bank, had

issued performance bonds in fayour of the directorate. counter-guarantees to indemnify the Wahda Bank against all con-

sequences of issuing the performance bonds. Murray Clayton had gone into insolvent liquidation in January 1987 and was incapable of supplying or delivering any further goods

The directorate had called on the Wahda Bank for payment under the performance bonds, and the Wahda Bank was in turn suing the Arab Bank for payment under the counter-guarantees. His Lordship said the perfor

mance bonds issued by the Wahda 🏊 Bank were bonds given in respect of contracts "the performance of which is unlawful, wholly or in part, by virtue of this order". It followed that to make any

payment in respect of the counter guarantees, or to do any act for the purpose of obtaining such payment, was prohibited by article 10 of the order. The supply contracts were still

executory and, if they were so be complied with performance would be unlawful by virtue of the

The fact that performance was not merely prohibited by the order but in practice rendered impossible by insolvency, did not and removing the contracts from the category of those "the performance of which is unlawful by virtue of fibel order".

Solicitors: Gardner Weller, Clifford Chance

Court of Session

Scots Law Report December 23 1992

Court of Session

Banker obliged to pay

v Bank of Scotland Before Lord Abernethy (Judgment October 28) A banker was obliged to make payment to the beneficiary of a letter of credit notwithstanding the fact that a suspensive condition of payment under the underlying contract had been purified only by

Centri-Force Engineering Ltd

the fraud of a third party to that Lord Abernethy, sitting in the Outer House of the Court of Session, so held, refusing a motion by Centri-Force Engineering Ltd for interdict ad interim against the Bank of Scotland from debiting their account or making payment to Software Systems of any moneys representing payment under a letter of credit issued by the bank at

the petitioners' application. Mr Stuart Nicoll for the petitioners; Mr Neil Davidson for the

LORD ABERNETHY said that the petitioners and Software had entered into a contact for the supply and installation of certain equipment. Part of the price was payable by irrevocable lener of credit payable on production. inter alia, of a commissioning certificate issued by a Danish firm of en-

Before the Lord Justice-Clerk (Lord Ross), Lord Mayfield and Lord

Where a sheriff overheard a wit-

ness speaking outside the court about evidence which he was to

give in a summary criminal trial before that sheriff, and the sheriff

felt unable to put what he had heard out of his mind, the appro-

priate course was not to desert the diet simpliciter, but to discharge the diet and fix a tresh diet of trial

before another sheriff.
The High Court of Justiciary.

string as the Court of Criminal Appeal, so held, passing a bill of advocation brought by Ian Angus

MacLeod. procurator fisdal at Perth, against a decision of the

sheriff in the trial on summary complaint of James Williamson on

The second of the sec

of assault and of

Dudgment October 91

gineers evidencing that the goods were in satisfactory working con-dition. The firm had been employed by Software to carry out the

A letter of credit containing that condition had been issued by the bank and a commissioning certificate had subsequently been issued. The petitioners averred, however, that the certificate had been issued fraudulently. The equipment had not then been and still was not in working condition. His Lordship accepted that the

petitioners had established a prima facie case that either the certificate had been issued knowing it to be false or else it had been issued without prior enquiry and therefore recklessly as to whether it was true or false and therefore in either event fraudulently. However, counsel for the bank

argued that the only exception to the strict general rule which required payment under a letter of credit when the documents were er facie in order was that the bank ought not to pay if the documents were presented by the beneficiary and the bank knew that they were forged or that the request for payment was made fraudulently in circumstances when there was no

contravention of section 1(1) of the Prevention of Crime Act 1953 to

desert the diet simpliciter, and remitting to the sheriff to fix a fresh

The Solicitor-General for Scot-

THE LORD JUSTICE-CLERK

said that when Mr Williamson's

trial had been adjourned for lunch.

the complainer's depute had met

police witnesses outside the court

them might be excused attendance

that afternoon. While that dis-cussion had been taking place, the

sheriff had happened to walk past.

After the adjournment, the sher-iff had intimated that he had

overheard one of the police wit-nesses state that his evidence

concerned only "recovering the

land (Sir Thomas Dawson, QC) for the Crown: Miss Joyce Powrie

that he had not made a case of fraud against Software, but between them and the engineers in as much as the principals of the

The letter in question was stated

to be subject to Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits (1983 Revision) International Chamber of Commerce Publication No 400, article 3 of which natwided: "Credits, by their nature, are separate transactions from the sales or other contract(s) on which

they may be based and banks are

in no way concerned with or

bound by such contract(s), even if any reference whatsoever to such coentact(s) is included in the credit." Accordingly, there were at least two contracts: one between the petitioners and Software and the other between the petitioners and the bank. It was provided in the latter that the two were separate

concerned with the former. There were also contractual relationshins between Software tween that bank and the defendant right to payment. bank. The Danish bank had In reply, Mr Nicoll had accepted already credited Software with the

sheriff expressed the view that that

might have an effect on his ability

to hear further evidence in the case.

and, after hearing submissions

which he had invited from the

defence agent and the depute, he had stated that he felt unable to

cast completely from his mind what he had overheard, and ex

proprio moru deserted the diet

Their Lordships had some sym-

party with the sherill in the position in which he had found himself. It was clear from his report that he had been anxious to

ensure that the trial was fairly conducted and that justice was not

only done but was seen to be done.

However, in such a case under summary procedure it ought to be possible for a sheriff to allow the trial to proceed since he ought to be

able to out out of his mind the

Sheriff overheard witness outside court

sum in the letter of credit, on the basis that the bank had indicated and that the letter would be honoured by them. Mr Davidson's submission was

fully supported by the terms of the and by what had been said about the law concerning letters of credit in the unanimous decision of the Court of Appeal in England in Edward Owen Engineering v Barclays Bank ([1978] QB 159, 169) per Lord Denning Master of the Rolls and of the House of Lords U.C.M. v Royal Bank of Canada ([1983] AC 168, 183) per Lord

The only exception to the basic rule recognised by Scors and English law was where the benefi-ciary himself presented the documents required by the letter of credit and they were forged or fraudulent: er turpi causa non orituractio (U.C.M. v Royal Bank of Canada, per Lord Diplock (at

facts of the present case. The certificate had not been presented by or on behalf of the beneficiary. but by a third party, the Danish

But that did not assist on the

Law agents: Haig Scott & Co. WS: Anderson Strathern, WS.

before him (Carmichael v Mona-

Nevertheless. their Lordships

were not prepared to fault him for

reaching a different conclusion upon that matter.

determined that the trial could not

justified ex proprio motu in desert-ing the diet simpliciter. He had not been entitled to do so either under

The appropriate course for him to have followed was to have discharged the diet of trial and to have fixed a fresh diet of trial to proceed before another sheriff (Platt v Lockhart 1988 SCCR 308;

H.M. Advocate v Mary Elder or

Law agents: Crown Agent: Simp-son & Marwick for Drew Paul &

statute or at common law.

Smith (1827) Syme 71).

However, when the sheriff had

ghan. 1986 SCCR 598).

by Ahmed Saleh seeking reduction of a decision of the Senatus of the University of Dundee not to allow him an opportunity to revise and re-submit his PhD thesis. Ms Leeona Dorrian for Mr

Saleh: Mr Neil Davidson for the

Saleh v University of Dundee

A decision of a university senate to

seek the advice of an independent examiner before failing a PhD

thesis was not improper or ultra

Lord Sutherland, sitting in the Outer House of the Court of

Session, so held, dismissing a petition for judicial review brought

Before Lord Sutherland

Judgment November 61

LORD SUTHERLAND said that the petitioner had submitted a committee appointed by the respondents comprising two members of their staff and an external

The committee had unanimously reported to the Senatus
that the thesis did not merit a degree, but the two university members had considered that he should be allowed to revise and resubmit the thesis, to which pro-posal the external examiner had

The Senatus had requested further advice from an independent resuminer as to whether the opportunity of re-submission should be allowed. Having received that advice the Senatus had refused the petitioner an opportu-nity to re-submit.

The petitioner contended that the appointment of an independent examiner was ultra vires and amounted to procedural impropriety. The university regulations quite specifically provided for the appointment of a committee to examine a thesis initially and report thereon to the Senatus: there was no provision for any further examiner. The Senatus therefore had to make up their minds on the basis simply of the examining committee's report. However, there was nothing either in the regulations or in the university's code of practice to

further external experiment of a further external expert.

There was no provision whatever as to what the Senatus might or might not do having received a

Seeking advice not improper committee's report, yet it was quite dear that it was for the Senatus to

decide whether to award a degree. It could not be said that in the circumstances the Senatus were bound simply to rubber-stamp whatever recommendation the examining committee might choose to put forward. It could not be said to be unreasonable for the

investigations before coming to a The pentioner also founded on the fact that the committee had decided that a viva voce examination was appropriate; it followed that the independent examiner also should have examined him

Senatus to decide to make further

was nothing in the regulations which required the committee to do so; it was a matter for their discretion. Equally therefore it. would be a matter within the discretion of an independent ex-

ternal exammer Finally, it was submitted that the independent examiner had sought information extraneous to the concommittee had decided that it would not be appropriate to make any further information available

It was submitted that his request had nevertheless been a pro-cedural impropriety: see Bans v British Wool Marketing Board (1957 SC 72). In Barrs, however.

quasi-judicial capacity. That was an entirely different situation from the present one where the independent examiner was acting not in a quasi-judicial capacity, but simply

as an expert. In any event, what had been sought had been any information which could be provided by the petitioner's supervisor which would have been favourable to his being given an opportunity for re-submission. His Lordship was unable to see how any prejudice could in consequence have been suffered by the petitioner. Law agents: Drummond Miller.

viva voce. However, again there Joke is not a relevant defence to a charge of assault

Lord Advocate's Reference No 2 of 1992 Before the Lord Justice-Clerk (Lord Ross), Lord Cowie and Lord Sutherland

[Judgment October 23] It was not a relevant defence to a charge of assault that it was a joke. The High Court of Justiciary, sitting as the Court of Criminal Appeal, so held, answering a question referred to the Court by the Lord Advocate which arose out of the trial in the High Court of a man accused of assault and at-

Mr Roderick Macdonald, QC. Advocate Depute, for the Crown; Mr Herbert Kerrigan, QC, for the

THE LORD JUSTICE-CLERK said that X had been tried on, inter alia, a charge of assaulting two shop assistants with intent to rob them by presenting an imitation hand-gun and demanding money. In evidence, X had admitted that he had committed the acts libelled in the indictment. His defence had been that his actions had been a joke, that he had had no evil intent to assault or rob the complainers, and that accordingly his actions had lacked the criminal intent necessary for the commission of the crimes libelled.

The trial judge had directed the jury that if they believed X's evidence, that it had been a joke and that he had had no evil intent, then they would acquit him: The jury had found the charge not

Proven.

The Lord Advocate had now referred to the court for its opinion. the following question: "Did the evidence of the accused that his admitted actions were carried out as a joke constitute, in all the comstances, a relevant defence the charges libelled against

in his Lordship's opinion the accused's assertion meant no more than that that had been his motive or ulterior intention in acting as he

imention was of the essence of assault (Macdonald, Criminal Law (5th ed) of 1.5). But what that meant was that assault could not be committed accidentally or recklessly or negligently (Gordon, Criminal Law (2nd ed) pp29-30). It was plain that the accused had acced deliberately. That being so, he had had the necessary intent for

The principle laid down by the Lord Justice-Clerk in H.M. Adto the state of th

constitute the crime of assault. His Lordship acknowledged that there were possible difficult mainere were possible difficult stuations for example, in sport, it would be a crime to rughy-tackle a stranger on the public street, although a rughy tackle in the course of a game of rughy would not amount to an assault. The not amount to an assault. The reason for that was that for conduct m a sporting game to be criminal, it would require to be shown to be outwith the normal scope of the sport (Butcher v Jessop 1989 SCCR 119).

As regards a joke between friends, if a friend, for example, deliberately tripped up his companion as a joke, the crime of assault would still have been committed although if it took place in the printers of joking between in the context of joking between friends, any prosecution would be unblocky.

he had not not recessary interior on his actions to amount to assault.

Law agents: Crown A and his motive for acting as he did McCarry, Glasgow. Law agents: Crown Agent: Ian

solvena

Milling

11111



THEATRE page 24

Leonie Mellinger as Princess Flavia in a bright new production of

The Prisoner of Zenda

OPERA page 25 Alec Guinness in The Ladykillers, a classic

British film now turned opera in Prague



JAZZ: Clive Davis on the uneasy partnership of hot music and cold technology since the first jazz records, 75 years ago

Swinging was not always so groovy

he year is 1917. Chaplin is playing the fool in Easy Street. Scott Fitzgerald is still five years away from publishing Tales of the Jazz Age, and in a studio in New York five white musicians from New Orleans, led by an astute cornet player and self-publicist called Nick Laborra are playing a tune called LaRocca, are playing a tune called "Livery Stables Blues".

The Original Dixieland Jazz Band was already the most talkedabout group in the city, thanks to the success of a residency at a fashionable Broadway restaurant. When "Livery Stables Blues" went on sale a few days after the Victor recording session, the band became a national sensation. More than a million copies were sold, at 75 cents a time, and jazz (or "jass" as some people referred to this newcomer, named after lubricious goings-on in the boudoir) was on the way to becoming the country's latest craze.

LaRocca, always quick to cash in. took to calling himself the "Colum-bus of jazz", to the chagrin of many black musicians. In reality, the form had emerged some years earlier without the assistance of the ODJB and its publicity machine. The early recording companies, however, had been slow to respond, and it was left to LaRocca to make history by putting jazz on record for the first time. The results, a cheerful amalgam of ragtime and blues, can be heard on a new compilation album, ODJB: The 75th Anniversary (RCA/ Bluebird ND-90650).

In a sense the notion of putting jazz on record is a contradiction in terms. A jazz performance is supposed to be spontaneous, not an artefact to be regurgitated note for note, year in year out. In the clinical atmosphere of the studio it is hard to re-create the exuberance and dynamism of a live performance in front of a sympathetic audience. Musicians tend to regard the whole business as a necessary evil.

without all the discs and the miles of tape? Classical music scholars may argue over the precise inter-pretations of a Mahler symphony. but they at least have a manuscript to work from. The best jazz - the inflections, the tone, the relationship between rhythm section and soloist - cannot be set down on paper with precision. How would

you reproduce the personal imprint of Bix Beiderbecke or the torrential creativity of Charlie Parker?

As it is, there are huge gaps in the edifice. A sizeable chunk of early behave for instruction in minute in minute in minute. bop, for instance, is missing due to a recording ban imposed by the American Federation of Musicians during the second world war. As for

'Jazz is supposed to be spontaneous, not an artefact to be regurgitated note for note'

the first legendary figure in New Orleans jazz, the cornet player Buddy Bolden, no recording exists. Bolden was at his peak around the turn of the century — one of the more unlikely tales about him was that, on certain nights, his playing could be heard miles away. A heavy drinker, he suffered a breakdown in 1906 and spent the last 25 years of his life in a mental institution.

According to one rumour, he made a cylinder recording as far back as 1894, but none has ever been found. Now he exists only in tall tales, a handful of scholarly tracts and Michael Ondaatje's suitably fragmented novel Coming Through Slaughter. Bolden's successor,

the opportunity to beat the ODIB to the studio. He was supposedly approached by Victor's staff in 1916, but sent them packing. "Nothin doin boys," he told his bandsmen. "We won't put our stuff on records for everybody to steal."
The next great New Orleans cornet player, Louis Armstrong's mentor Joe "King" Oliver, fared somewhat better in terms of recordings. Even so, his band did not cut its first disc until 1923, when he was in his late thirties. Tracks such as "Dipper Mouth Blues" are now recognised as classics, yet there is a widely held view that Oliver's best years were already behind him by this time.

Once the record industry got into its stride, technology played a major role in the development of the music — so much so that The New Grove Dictionary of Jazz now devotes more than a dozen pages to the subject. Early studio technology imposed many constraints, the most obvious of which was the three-minute playing time of 78 rpm discs. 1920s equipment also had tryuble coping with the boomhad trouble coping with the booming sound of the drums, so drummers were often confined to the use of the rims or wood blocks.

In the post-war years the advent of the LP and tape editing gave musicians and producers greater freedom. But the sophisticated techniques that are part of every pop star's armoury have not become standard practice, except amongst jazz-rock musicians, partly because of the sheer expense of long sessions in the studio. There is also the feeling that too much technology can get in the way of good

Randy Brecker, one of the top fusion musicians of the past 20 years, has pointed to the problems that can arise: "My generation is used to overdubbing and not recording live. Musicians have separate booths and headphones in



Already past his best? King Oliver (standing at the rear, centre) and his Dixie Syncopators in 1925. Hulton-Deutsch Collection

the studios. As a result, people tend to overplay and play loud."

How true. The truth is that some of the finest recordings of the past 40 years were made in a living room in New Jersey — at the home of Rudy van Gelder, the celebrated engineer for such labels as Blue Note and Prestige. During the 1950s van Gelder (an optometrist by day) recorded at his parents' home in Hackensack, setting up a control booth next to the room

where the musicians were playing.

Miles Davis, John Coltrane and Horace Silver all made superb albums there. Today, Van Gelder remains the doyen of engineers, capable of producing an extraordinarily warm, velvet sound. Generations have been won over to jazz simply by that ambience, one which gives the listener the impression of having the best seat in the

world's best jazz club. Meanwhile, an army of technicians and producers is busy salvaging the past. With the advent of

compact discs and digital technology in general, record companies have been quick to meet the demand for vintage albums shorn

of their snap, crackle and hiss. The ODJB set is one of many to be put through a computerised system which removes imperfections and surface noise. But even this laudable project has aroused controversy, with the best-known freelance exponent of the dean-up process, the Australian engineer Robert Parker, claiming that the

major labels have used the technology indiscriminately, with serious consequences for the clarity and balance of the original recordings.

Parker has spoken of his fear that cost-conscious executives may eventually decide to sell the original metal master discs for scrap, leaving only the distorted CD versions for posterity. Like musicologists arguing over fortepianos and "au-thentic" violins, the experts may yet face a long debate over the real sound of jazz.

TELEVISION REVIEW: Richard Morrison on Peter Greenaway's latest

Watch out, the Beagle's about

o doubt about it. Peter Greenaway made a fascinating pro-gramme about Darwin (Channel 4). I know, because by squinting hard, moving the armchair to within three feet of the screen and turning the brightness knob full up. 1 could watch it from start to finish. Well, not quite from the start. I also spent a little time fruitlessly twiddling the "verti-cal hold" button, before it struck me that the big black areas across the top and bot-

tom of the screen were intentional. Arty, I suspect. But the thought did occur that perhaps Greenaway is not a natural television director. Those lovingly composed tab-leaux, each one reflecting a different aspect of the great evolutionist's life and times — 18 in all, with bonking and feasting given as muchprominence as species-originating would probably look impressive on a big cinema screen. The play of light and shade across the assembled genitals

be applaud

symbolic. Reduced to a murky, fourinch-deep band, however, the programme evoked only the antics of a slightly dodgy Victorian sketching-club observed

through a letter-box. Of course, making the viewer feel like a voyeur was part of Greenaway's plan. We were intruders spying on the tab-leaux, just as Darwin observed the natural world from the decks of HMS Beagle.

Hence, too, the weird com-mentary. While undeniably saying much about the social and scientific climate in which Darwin lived, it also lost no opportunity to signpost the artifice of the film-making in sentences of comic verbosity, presumably meant to parody Darwin's own writing. Such as: This is not an exact reproduction of Darwin's study but an imaginary composite mid-19th century working place

which may reproduce in es-

Darwin Channel 4

workingmid- or late-19th century figures who were Darwin's actual near contemporaries: Marx, Dickens, Prince Albert, Shaw, H.G. Wells, Tolstoy and even Freud." You mean they all lived in four-inch-wide

boxes?
With Greenaway's work,
however, you either enter into the spirit of unravelling a riddle to find a paradox wrapped in an enigma, or you dismiss the whole exercise as the farrage of a self-important poseur. Personally, I favour unravelling, if only because it would be a dull old world if nobody attempted anything

And this programme's central paradox was vintage Greenaway. Darwin might have rocked conventional religion with his theories, might have removed from humanity all comforting illusions about soul, conscience and fixed

moral codes, and might be regarded as a pillar of rational atheism. But this film undercut that notion by making biblical allusions at every turn.

First the long-bearded Darwin was likened to "Moses coming down from the mountait, with new commandments". Then he actually played God in the tableau depicting the Genesis myth. And finally Greenaway posed this question: since humans no sooner understand something than they start to destroy it (for instance, much of the wildlife observed by Darwin from the Beagle), aren't such scientific "advances" exactly the reason why God warned Adam not to

touch the Tree of Knowledge?
So Darwin either proved there is no divine purpose in our universe, or the opposite. Greenaway took an hour to make this point. He could learn something about conci-sion from another film-maker. Luis Bunuel, whose celebrated quip - "I'm still an atheist, thank God" - really says it all.

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this Christmas from your local Ritz.

Garden for more than 60 years. Scottish Opera has opted for more familiar fare: Bellini's Norma, which will open in Glasgow in April. pagne. If only all the answers

Take your partners or take your leave

LONDON City Ballet, the enterprising troupe founded by Harold King 14 years ago. is expected to merge with English National Ballet in the new year. It is believed that King will then take control of a new national touring company which will operate under the ENB umbrella. Some of LCB's dancers and key members of its staff are likely to go with King to ENB: the name of the new touring group is apparently still under negotiation. Such a move could guarantee that the financiallystrapped London City Ballet. which has built up an enthusiastic public in the regions, would be partially preserved,

even if its name is lost. SO NOW we know what government ministers get up to on Saturday nights. Classic FM's brainteaser quiz, which mixes current affairs and music in a series of cryptic questions, was won last week by Sir George Young. The housing minister phoned in with the answers from his car, and won a magnum of cham-



came that easily in politics.

Score draws

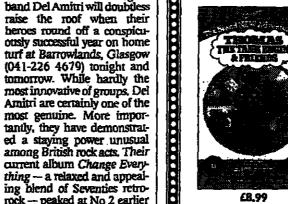
OPERA fans will be well served with early 19th-century rependire next year, courtesy

Peter Moores. Two years ago he approached British opera companies with an offer to fund productions of operas from the great era of mad scenes and vocal pyrotechnics. Three companies have taken up his £800,000 gift. Opera North is premiering its new production of Ponchielli's La Gioconda at Leeds on May 1; while at Welsh National Opera, Donizetti's La Favorita is

to be dusted down and staged. opening in Cardiff on March 5. That production will also

Last To Know.

most innovative of groups, Del Amitri are certainly one of the most genuine. More importantly, they have demonstrated a staying power unusual among British rock acts. Their current album Change Everything - a relaxed and appealing blend of Seventies retrorock -- peaked at No 2 earlier in the year, and after a gruelling tour they are at last making inroads in America with a hit single "Always The



£12,99



Moving on? Kim Miller and Conor O'Brien, of London City Ballet, to be merged with English National Ballet

LONDON

CINDERELLA. The Royal Baket's Christmas treat, based on the classic tary-tale, with music by Prokofley and choreography by Frederick Ashton including the Ugly Satist" piace de résistance. Vivena Durante dances the the role tonight with Snuce Sar

Poyet Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2 (071-240 1086/1911), Tonight, 7.30pm, Set, 2.30pm and 7.30pm. THE COMEDY OF ERRORS I an Judge's sublimely hinny production, with award-winning Desmond Barnt playing both portly twins. With colourful cookuras and sets created by designer Mark Thompson.

Mark Thompson, Barbican, Sik Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Opens tonight, 7pm, Sat. 2pm and 7.15pm (closed Christmas eve and

HANSEL AND GRETEL: David Pountney's nostalgic but unsentmental production is reweld at English National Opera, Rosa Mannion's bright, dear Gretel is in partnership with Ethna Robinson's Just William-Ish Hansel. Collegian, St. Martin's Lane, WCZ (071-836 3161). Today, 3pm (with Julie Gossage and Anne Gerbic), 7.30pm

() ANNUE GET YOUR GUN: Irving Barlin's pre-terminet musical is no model for a Nineties women but the songs are

samply smashing Prince of Wates, Coventry Street, WI (071-839 5967), Tues-Sa, 7 30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, Sun, 3pm, 160mins (closed Christmas day and Dec 28)

N ASSASSINS: Sondham's sharp and successful musical explores the

Impulse that comes not appears to the American Presidents, Dommer Warehouse, Eartham Street, WC2 (071-867 i 150), Mon-Sat, 7,30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm, 105mins (dosed Otrestness eve, Christimas day and New

☐ BARNUM: Encoyable Christmas treat, with Paul Nicholas wallung the high ware. Bouncy numbers by Cy Coleman

we's souncy numbers by Cy Colemen and Michael Stewart. Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (171-59) 8845) Mon-Sat, 7:30pm, mass Wed and Sat, 3pm. 140mins (closed Christmas day).

M CAROUSEL: Joanna Riding and Michael Hayden star in a triumphent rewal of the Rodgers & Hammerstein raground musicel.

Netional (Lyttetton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2525), Mon-Sal, 7 John, mats Tues, Sal, 2 15pm, 180mns (closed Christmas eve and Christmas day).

III THE GIFT OF THE GORGON.
Peter Shaller's latest: bloodhinsty
revenge versus targiveness on a
modern Greek Island. Deep issues, fily
treatment though Judi Dench is
powerful The Pit, Barbican Centre, Sik
Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Torught.

performances (not always where you expect) in Coward's excellent cornedy. Alberry, St Mentin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mais, Thurs, Sat, 3pm, 150mms (closed Christmes eve and Christmes day).

IN IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY: Larks in

Playhouse, Northumberiand Avenue, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8 30pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5.30pm.

M AN IDEAL HUSBAND: Anna Carterel, Harmeh Gordon and Martin

CHAPLIN (12): A skilled impersonation by Robert Downey Jr., but Richard Attenborough's bitly biographical epic never penetrates far inside the man or

COOL WORLD (12). Frenstic, suffocating mixed media exercise from animation's wild men Ratiph Baleshi. With Gather Byrne, Kim Basinger. MGM Fullham Road (071-370 236) MGM Tottlenham Court Road (071-63 44). MGM Tottlenham Court Road (071-63 44). MGM Tottlenham Court Road (071-63 44).

MGM Totlenhum Court Road (7)71-636 6148) MGM Trocadero (7)71-434

omedy about two street punks (Damon

Wayans and younger brother Marion) moved up in a credit card fraud. Director,

MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310)
MGM Trocadera (071-434 0031)
Odeon Kensington (0426 914666)
Plaza (071-497 9999) UCI Whiteleys

THE MUPPET CHRISTMAS
CAROL (U) Successful blend of
Dickers' story with Muppet madness.
Saming Michael Cane as Scroope.
Kernvil as Bob Cratchit. Director, Brain

Nerrisk 35 DOO Cractust Director, Brian Henson.
Camden Parlemby (071-267 7034)
MGM Baker Street (071-355 9772)
MGM Chelsen (071-355 5096) MGM
Haymarkst (071-353 1527) MGM
Oxford Street (071-356 0310) MGM
Trocadero (071-344 0031) Odeons:
Kenstlanding 0129 9,14865

(ensington (0426 914666) Aezzanine (0426 915683)

◆ MO' MONEY (15). Violent, adique

Odeon Laicester Square (0426

NEW RELEASES

the hospital common room; matron curraged; doctors flummored. Ray

Cooney fance with lots of faughs

THEATRE GUIDE

REGIONAL

■ House full, returns only

Some seats available

Seats at all prices

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment

compiled by Heather Alston

COURTNEY PINE With an increasingly varied rependire ranging from reggee to jazz standards, the versable tenor saxophonist offers

performances of style and substance Jazz Calé, 15a Parkersy, NW1 (071-284 4358) Tonight, tomorrow, 7pm.

THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE

WARDROBE: This year's excursion to Name, by courtesy of Venessa Ford Productions, Somewhat better than others in the collection

others in the collection Royalty, Portugal Streat, off Kingsway, WC2 (071-494 5090). Today, 2.30pm and 6.30pm, tomorrow, 2.30pm, 4pm and 6.30pm, until Jan 16 (closed Christmes day and New Year's Day)

OXFORD: Daydreaming Princess
Footna and mischievous Tom Footin

but stylishly done. Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 9065). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mets Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 165mins.

IN KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN Li KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN: Tremendously glossy production of the Kender & Ebb museci. It coarsens the values of Maruel Pugh's novel but Chita Rivers melses a striking varmp With Brent Carver and Anthony Chivello. Shaftasbury, Shaftasbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 6399). Mon-Sat, Born, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 180mins (closed Christmas eve and Christmas day).

LOST IN YONKERS: Terrific performance by Rosemary Hamis in a Neil Simon comedy more weighty than Net Simon comedy more wardy tren usual Maureen Lipman gives good value as a loopy aunt.

Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-830 8800).
Mon-Sal, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sal, 2.30pm, 160mins (closed Christmes

■ MADNESS IN VALENCIA: Another Li maturess in Valencia: Artoner enjoyably syllen Spanish discovery: lovers mad for love einellering in a madhouse Gate, 11 Pembridge Road, W11 (071-229.0706) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. 125mins (closed Christmas eve-Dec 30). [] MISERY: Sharon Gless and Bill

Characterisation against and be Paterson in American grand guignot, hopeless characterisation for Srephen King addicts. Criterien, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 150mms (closed Christmas day).

D PYGMALION: Alan Howard, Frances Barber in a Howard Davies production that some admire greatily while others feel subordinates the text to a dever design. National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252) Tonight, 7.15pm.

☐ HADIO TRINES: Tony Statiery in a fun trip down Memory Lane, set in warine Broadcasting House, bursting with sprightly Neal Bay numbers. Queen's, Statiesbury Avenue, W1 (071-894 5040). Mon-Fri. 7.30pm, Sat. 4.30pm. 150mms (closed Christmas day).

Pooling About, by the team who produced last year's delightful Megic Storybook. Playhouse, Beaumont Street (0865)

798600). Today, 2pm, tomorrow, 10.15am, Boding day, 2pm, then continues at various times until Jan 3 (closed Christmes day)

EDINBURGH Artori Ros-Marbi conducts The Scottish Chamber Orchestra in a concert for Christmas

The orchestra and chorus with Mana Beyo. Patricta Bardon, John-Mark Airsley and Dawd Wison-Johnson performs. Handels. Messain. Ueher Halli, Lothian Road. (031-668 2019). Tonight, 7,45pm.

BERMINIGHAM: The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra under Simon Helsey performs a programme of seasonal music with Alan Tilchmersh

Symphony Hall, Broad Street, (021-212 3333), Tonight, 7 30pm.

No. with home, percussion and Colombien leed singer Zira, takes up the Curistmas residency with Curtis Little in support (lonight, tomorrow). Romale Scott's, Broad Street (021-643 4526), toright, tomorrow, and Dec 28-31

THREE BIRDS ALIGHTING ON A FIELD: Harriet Walter perfect again in pavival of this subtle, comic state-ofreawaj or mis suose, como seas-or-the-neston play, set in a world of shibing values and plurameting art-prices. Royal Court, Sloare Square, SW1 (771-730 1745) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Set, 4pm, 150mins (closed Dec 21-Boxing

TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT: Simon Cadel, John Wels, Richard Kane, Christopher Gee play all 26 parts in Gles Hevergal's marvellous adeptation of Graham Greene's novel Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Frt, 8pm, Sat. B. 15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 140 mits (closed Christmas eve and Christmas eve and Christmas eve and

Christnes day)

LONG RUNNERS: ☐ Blood
Brothers: Phoenix (071-887 1044)
☐ Buddy: Victora Palace (071-834
1317)... ☐ Carroen Jones: Old Vic (071-928 7616)... 點 Cata: New London (071-405 0072)... ☐ The Complete Works of Williams Shakespeare (Abridged): Aris Theetre (071-836 2132)... ☐ Dancing at Leghasse: Garrick (071-494 5085)
☐ Don't Dress for Dinner: Duchess (071-494 5075)... E Five Guys Named Mos: Lync (071-494 5045)
☐ From a Jack to a King:
Arrbessadors (071-836 6111)

III Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dresmoost: Pelackium (071-494 5037)... ☐ Mie and My Girl: Adolphi (071-836 7611)... 點 Les Misérables: Palace (071-434 6093)... 點 Misérables: Salgon: Thesize Royal, Druy Lane (071-494 500)... ☐ The Blossetrap: Si Martin's (071-836 1443)... 圖 The Phantom of the Opera: Ner Majessty's

ST Martin's (071-436 1443) ... III The Phantom of the Operas Her Mejesty's (071-494 5400) ... | Return to the Forbidden Planet: Cambridge (071-379 5299) ... | Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8865) | The Woman in Black: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information on member theatres supplied by Society of West End Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

THE PRINCESS AND THE GOBLIN (U): Blandly enimated adition of George MacDonald's Victorian classic about a sheltered princess combatting goblins. Director, Jossef Genres. CURRENT

 DEATH BECOMES HER (PG):
Meryl Streep and Goldie Hewn battle to
streep and goldie Hewn battle to comedy, durrately swamped by special effects. Stars Bruce Wills; director, Robert Zerrecks. Camden Parkwey (071-287 7034) Empire (071-935 9772) MGM Falker Street (071-935 9772) MGM Fullsam Road (071-370 2636) UCI Whiteleys 071-392 33321

◆ HOME ALONE 2: LOST IN NEW

◆ HOME ALONE 2: LOST IN NEW YORK (PG)* More of the same, with extra crucilly and a horrid new streak of sentmentality With Macautay Culidn, Joe Peso, Daniel Stern. Director, Chris-Columbus.

Barbican (071-638 8891) MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Odeons: Kenalington (0426 91466) West End (0426 91555*4) UCI Writteleys (071-792 3332)

INTO THE WEST (PG): Two gypsy children ride a mysterious white horse into western treland. Wayward but engaging: good for older children. Stars Gabnel Byrne, Ellen Barkin. Director, Milia Newell. Odeon Havmerket (0426 915353).

◆ OF MICE AND MEN (PG): Steinbeck's classic Depression tale of Malkovich as the slow-writed Lennie; director Gary Sinise as his protector. Simple, sturdy and moving. Cuszon West End (071-439 4805).

 SISTER ACT (PG): Whoop!
Goldberg hides out in a convent.
Contrived but disamming, warm-hearted comedy. Maggle Smith as the Mother Supenor. Director, Ernile Ardolino.
MGM Chelses (071-352-5095) MGM Kansington (0425 914655) West End (0426 915574) UCI Whiteleys (071-792

SLACKER (15): College-age layebouts in Austin, Texas, vent crazy thoughts on tile, the Smurfs and UFOs Striking debut by film-maker Richard Linkster, with an emateur cast. Metro (071-437 0757).

 ASTRICTLY BALLROOM (PG): One dancer's fight to defy the rules of the Australian Ballroom Dancing Federation Ebuffient, intoxicating debut by director Baz Lutrimann. With Paul Mercuro, Tara Morice MIGM Chelsee (071-352 5096) MIGM Piccadilly (174-437 3561) Odeores: Keneington (1745 614888) Kensington (0426 914666) Mezzanine (0426 915883) Plaza (071-497 9989) Renoir (071-837 8402)

THEATRE: Jeremy Kingston enjoys a thrilling adaptation of a classic romantic adventure

Duels crown a dazzling display

AUTHORS may say they are writing about imaginary countries. Lilliput or Ruritania, but the chances are that these are metaphors for the home country. Anthony Hope put forward a most unconvincing account of how he hit upon the idea for his splendid tale, one which made no mention of any influences closer to home than the grim castle of Zenda or the palace at Strelsau. The future King George V had in fact just replaced his wretched older brother as eventual heir to the throne, and George was a spitting image of his cousin. Tsar Nicholas II. Many a disappointed royal personage must have wished, like Ruritania's Princess Flavia, that his or her spouse could be swapped for a more spirited lookalike.

Everyone involved in the latest dramatisation of this best of all romantic adventures deserves praise for its success. Lez Brotherston's set is a grand construction of curving stone steps, invaluable when duels must be fought in Douglas Fairbanks style. Ropes hang at the side ready for a lightning escape, and beyond them rise the snow-capped mountain peaks of Zenda

Matthew Francis, adapter and director, ingeniously alters the beginning to plunge us at once into the thicket of Ruritania's dynastic struggle. Black Michael, the dying king's bastard, is beating at the door to his father's apartments clamouring for recognition, and when the drunk Prince Rudolph sidles in we quickly grasp the nature of the conflict ahead. Michael (strong performance by Nicholas Gecks) is wrong and reptilian, Rudolph right but rotten.

The action takes place in a dozen different locations, but the adaptation The Prisoner of Zenda Greenwich

has the feel and thrust proper to a play, not that of a converted book. Francis adds new lines, comic but witty, and knowing irony takes the place of romantic earnestness. Not all the highflown declarations are gone. David Haig, playing both the Royal Rudolph and the English gentleman Rassen-dyll, exclaims. "I love you more than truth or life or honour" and makes this mouthful sound as if it comes sincerely from the heart.

Haig is a warm, cuddiy-looking actor, not obvious casting for the role of dashing duellist. We see him first as the puppyish Prince, convincingly the man afraid to be king, but he makes the role of Rassendyll equally his own. There is a well-bred ardour to his countship of Leonie Mellinger's Flavia, a passionate vigour in his swordplay and, subtly suggested, a nervous wonder at the pageantry of majesty. Mellinger is good at conveying the troubled inability to identify what is not quite as it Both Prince and Rassendyll appear

together in some scenes, requiring the quick removal and restoring of a moustache, managed by cunningly distracting the audience. The fights. arranged by Malcolm Ranson, are exceptionally well done, and Haig's adversary in the most acrobatic of them is Mark Lockyer's handsome, wickedly smiling villain, Rupert of Hentzau, puppyish too but from a killer breed. Sturdy performances are also given by Michael Cronin's Colonel Sapt and Melanie Jessop's black widow, Antoinette de Mauban. A rousing evening.



Mellinger and Haig: even the high-flown declarations are convincing

CHRISTMAS SHOW: Tony Patrick relishes an evening of old-fashioned Dickensian entertainment

HUMBUGS by the hundred and carols by the quire are on offer in this doggedly decent Dickens derivation. which has taken up temporary resi-dence at the sign of the Mermaid, hard by Blackfriars Bridge, an it please your worships. Sorry, but alliteration and archaisms are only to be expected after exposure to this old-fashioned entertainment. The wonder of it is that the presumably computer-games-sated children in the audience seemed, last Monday evening, to enjoy the show

almost as much as did the adults. Ron Pember is credited with the musical adaptation and previously took the role of Scrooge, inhabited this vear by Douglas Fielding (yes, Quilley in Z Cars and Sergeant Ouick in EastEnders). He makes a splendidly

Generous in spirit A Christmas Carol

spry, utterly believ-able and vigorously Mermaid venomous old skin-

flint. After the depiction of his earlier disappointments in life, when the spirits subject him to the This Is Your Life routine, you cannot belp but feel that any sensitive soul would have retreated into himself in the same way. "Humbug!", particular-ly when delivered with the relish Fielding displays, begins to sound like a reasoned response to any merry suggestion that life is not a matter of

ledgers and frugality.

- Vanessa Ford's company includes a

dozen adults, plus seven children (three teams rotate). They are immaculately drilled and likely to swing into close

harmony at the drop of an aitch. The slow-motion movement and ensemble mobbing of Scrooge at various points are powerful, and I was particularly impressed by their very musical mail coach, complete with human horses. All the instrumental music, bar some fiddle playing, is provided by Barry Westcott, playing a grand piano and synthesizer.

Apart-from Fielding's excellent cen-

rest, from Anna Dawson as a genuinely affecting Mrs Cratchit and a preposterous Mrs Fezziwig, to Felicity Duncan as the wildly different trio of Mrs Posset (completely O.T.T.), Belie and Mrs Dibler. As the Ghost of Christmas Past and as Belinda, Annabelle Lanyon strikes me as exceptionally good: direct and true. Jonathan Bahar (Monday's Tiny Tim) stayed just on the right side of cutesiness. John Boulter's Bob Cratchit and Ray

tral performance, the women seize

their chances to make the best of the

C. Davis's Fred are so Good they have difficulty in remaining likable, but they and Arthur Kohn, Mark Feakins, Rupert Ingham (the fiddle player) and Frank Stirling invest their various roles with rousing conviction.

OPERA: Restoring the music of Monteverdi to its original scale can cause problems in a large auditorium

IN THE opinion of many, myself included, the New London Consort's recent recording for Decca of M verdi's L'Orfeo represented a triumph in restoring to the work the circumstance of its original, domestic performance. But the Queen Elizabeth Hall is hardly a parlour, even on the grandiose scale of the Mantuan court, and so, as with this same group's account of the 1610 Vespers the other week, the work lacked the impact in concert that it has on disc. The problem the group's director Philip Pickett faced was less one of lack of volume or body than the reality that many (though not all) of the voices could not project emotional nuances much further than spitting distance.

Saved by a dashing hero

L'Orfeo

In fact, the number of singers significantly exceeded that for the Ves-

PHOEMS BO/CC 867 1044 867 1111/544 4444 (fee) 497 9977 EEST MUSICAL ALL 4 MAJOR AWARDS 1981 WILLY RUSSELL'S

Oueen Elizabeth Hall pers, so that the choruses, at least, came across crisp and fresh and full. Neither were any serious problems of commu-nication encountered in the instrumental department. Though the cornetti and sackbuts were in slack form, the strings - only a sextet - played splendidly, and the five-strong contin-

uo team provided a firm and atmospheric foundation. But this opera demands much from

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its singers, and the monochromatic nature of voices such as those of Catherine

Bott (La Musica in the Prologue, and afterwards the Messaggiera and Pro-serpina) and of Andrew King (First Spirito, First Pastore, Eco and Apolio), however characterful, simply proved insufficiently flexible for the task. Neither was it helpful that, countering Bott's tendency to push the pitch to the sharp side, Julia Gooding, as Euridice, sang with flat tone and, often, pitch. There were also problems of balance

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Grant's Caronte, though rich in quali-George's Plutone, dark and powerful enough to waken the dead. Chris Robson's Speranza, meanwhile, possessed exactly the right Bowman-like whiteness of timbre.

But to be fair Monteverdi does

between voices: most obviously, Simon

reserve much of the best music for his hero's role, and here the New London Consort struck gold. John Mark Ainsley brought to Orfeo a fervency. individuality and authority sorely missed elsewhere, single-handedly rescuing what might otherwise have been a dullish evening.

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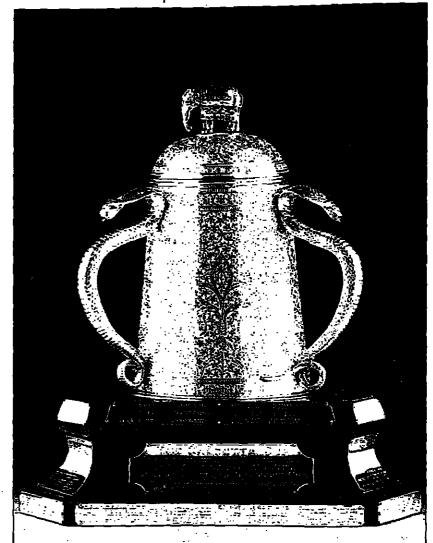
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Shedding light on the history of design as well as of sport: among the trophies on show at the V&A are (left to right) the Ladies Championship Challenge Plate; the Sir Charles Wakefield Trophy for Maximum Speed; the Calcutta Cup

he FA Cup, the Ashes, the Ascot Gold Cup, the Schneider Tro-phy and such are so familiar as concepts that perhaps few stop to wonder what they actually look like, or have more chance to find out than a distant glimpse of presentation in News at Ten. In any case, for most sports enthusiasts the physical shape of the prize is immaterial, the glory of winning all.

Nevertheless, the opportunity of seeing virtually every sporting trophy anybody has ever heard of, gathered together in one place, must provoke a little curiosity in even the most spiritual of sportsmen. The Victoria and Albert's show Sporting Glory, which offers just such an occasion, should be a surefire attraction for them. It also presents so much gold and silver and silver-gilt that the audience for "treasures" of any origin might be persuaded to turn out. But how about those who go to the V&A primarily for the loftier pleasures of art and design? Nothing much in it. surely, for them?

Ah, well, that could be a grave mistake. How many realise, for instance, that in this show they can actually see the Eglinton Trophy, designed and carried through by friends of Lord Eglinton to commemorate (and presumably comfort him for) the disastrous Eglinton Tourna-

Cups that we have cheered

the most famous piece of early 19th-century romantic medievalism. The trophy itself, designed in elegant Neo-Gothic style by Edmund Cotterill, stands eight feet high, took four years to make, is of solid silver and cost £1,775 then, which is estimated at over £1 million in modern terms. The effect is staggering even if you have never heard of the tournament (in any case, the catalogue explains it all), and certainly a design landmark of a sort.

Look further back, and there are more intriguing sidelights on the history of design. Take the succession of Richmond Race Cups made between 1759 and 1792. To begin with, they are very curly and flouncy and rococo. By the 1790s they are a model of Neo-Classical restraint. As they are displayed, eight of them side by side, one can see tastes shifting and changing. And right in the middle there is the 1766 Richmond Cup, design specially commissioned from Robert Adam and representing a watershed in the return to true classical feeling. One could hardly ask for a more vivid way John Russell Taylor reviews a glittering show of cups, trophies and shields created to reward

sporting achievements since the 18th century

of making design history spring to life.
One of the curiosities of 19th-century nomendature is that sporting trophies were almost inevitably known as "cups". whether or not they included anything which could even theoretically contain liquid. Many of these Victorian "cups" were in fact full-bodied, free-standing sculptures, and again it is illuminating to see such as the National Challenge Trophy (for rifle shooting) of 1866, a stirring allegorical composition represent-ing Peace and War to either side of a central pedestal, or the Queen's Cup (1848) which is actually a spirited "Moorish" (actually bull-fighting) scene of a picador charging a bull, designed by Cotterill. He, incidentally, was clearly a resourceful sculptor whose name would

not spent his last 27 years in virtual anonymity as principal designer for

Hardly less sculptural are such actual cups for horse-racing as the Beaufort Cup (1866), which features scenes from the lives of Charles I and II surmounted by a figure of John of Gaunt, or the Tennyson Vase, designed by Henry Hugh Armstead with scenes from The Idylls of the King in high relief, and shown in the Paris Exposition Universelle of 1867. At the end of the 19th century we can see demonstrated another design revolution. with the sudden drastic simplification introduced by C.R. Ashbee and his Guild of Handicraft, where high Victorian omateness is replaced by Arts and Crafts

simplicity and the localisation of ornament to a few strategically placed Art Nouveau details, as in the Kennard Jubilee Cup for golf (1902).

The 20th century brings much more stylistic uncertainty. Many of the dullest trophies, hopefully echoing past glories, date from the last 75 years, as well as, admittedly, some appealingly bizarre extravaganzas, such as the Empire Exhibition Trophy (1938), a silver miniature of the Deco main tower of the exhibition itself. It would be impossible to guess what sport this was intended for (football, as it happens), and in this it falls into a respectable tradition: how would one know that the Calcutta Cup (1878), with two cobras for handles and an elephant on top. is for rugby union, or the Ladies' Singles Championship Challenge Plate (1864), allegorising Temperance, for

At least with the most funereal of recent designs, John Harwood's De Beer Diamond Day Cup (1991), in grey and white marble, you could guess from the inset holograms that it had something to do with horses. But then again, you might not wish to know.

One might not hope for too much from very recent design, since the normal conditions of commission tend to drive the artist-craftsmen concerned either into an anaemically tasteful Neo-Georgian, or back irresistibly into the mind-set of the Festival of Britain - possibly because that was the last period at which those legendary men in the street (or the boardroom) felt altogether at ease with the latest design had to offer.

On the other hand, the ascendancy of Deco between the wars was absolutely ideal for the trophy market: especially if what was required had to reflect the idea of speed with a bit of smooth streamlining. The Sir Charles Wakefield Trophy for Maximum Speed, created by Phoebe Stabler in 1929 — there is even a picture of her doing it — has it all: an allegorical winged figure flinging herself into action as draperies stream out behind, all in gleaming gold. Great art or not, the conviction of the design is unmistakable.

 Sporting Glory, at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Cromwell Road. SW7 (071-589 6371), Mon-Sat, 10am-5_30pm, Sun noon-5_30pm, until February 14 (closed tomorrow. Friday and Saturday). Sponsored by Courage Admission £4.95, concessions £3.50.

What's Czech for Ealing comedy?

That 1955 British film classic, The Ladykillers, has just been staged in Prague — as an opera. Report by **Philip Kemp**

lec Guinness, snaggle-toothed and sepulchral, looms up at the door of a rickety little house near St Pancras Station. "Mrs Wilberforce? I understand you have rooms to let." The film is The Ladykillers, Alexander Mackendrick's 1955

black comedy, in which Guinness and his gang of ruthless but accident-prone crooks are destroyed by the staunch Victorian values of one little old lady. But The Ladykillers isn't just the last of the great Ealing comedies. It is also probably the only British film ever to be turned into an opera.

Around 1960, when the film reached Prague, it was seen by the Czech composer Ilja Hurník Hurnik, then in his thirties, had composed plenty of orchestral and chamber music, but had never hit on the right subject for an opera. "I knew I wasn't heroic enough to write a tragic drama - neither did ! feel lyrical enough for a fairy-tale, nor funny enough for an opera

"Then one day I went to the cinema, and found my heroine there. I liked the story because in it good triumphs over evil, without

any rattling of sabres or heroes swelling with pride."

Working to his own libretto, Hurnik remoulded the film into his first opera. Dama a lupici (The Lady and the Robbers). A hit at its 1967 premiere in Pilsen, it enjoyed several revivals in Czechoslovakia

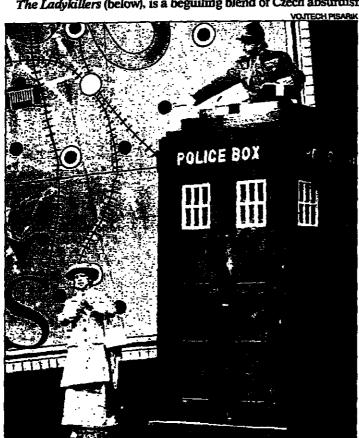
and East Germany.

And with the latest production, amid the baroque splendour of the National Theatre in Prague, the English connection has been reestablished. The revival has been mounted as part of the English National Opera's Baylis outreach programme, with an English team in charge: director David Sulkin and designer Bethia Jane Green.
Sulkin, back from Prague where Humik's opera is playing in reper-

tory to enthusiastic audiences, speaks of the composer with affection. "He's a wonderfully elegant. courtly character, with beautiful old-world manners — very gener-ous in his attitude to his work. He said: 'I finished writing this opera a



Rather than distorting the spirit of the original film (above), Ilja Hurnik's operatic treatment of The Ladykillers (below), is a beguiling blend of Czech absurdism and English suburban Gothic



long time ago — and now it is yours, to do what you like with."

Sulkin and Green decided to reintroduce some of the ultra-English detail of the original film, elements of its world of dotty superannuated Victorianism. Green's set design for the house suggests, as Sulkin puts it, "a mixture of a bird-cage, a prison, a

bandstand and St Pancras Station. It's a symbol of the world the old lady was born into, of the empire and the Great Exhibition, all that

elaborate, terribly British wrought-iron work." Inevitably. Hurnik's libretto takes liberties with the film's plot. The criminals still pose as a chamber-music group - but there

are only four of them, not five, playing a Haydn quartet instead of the famous Boccherini minuet. The old lady has a neighbour, Mr MacDonald, whom she denounces to the police for mistreating his cat. (very English, but with maybe a wry side-glance at the informers of pre-Dubcek Prague). And the police inspector is no bluff Jack Warner type, but a melancholy figure who hates his job, yearning to be home in the paddock with his horses.

But none of these changes dis-

torts the spirit of the film. Rather. Hurnik adds a further dimension. creating a beguiling blend of Czech absurdism and English suburban Gothic. The music — written in a modern but highly accessible idiom - is engagingly witty. Sound effects are ingeniously composed into the score: parrots, phone conversations, trains thundering past the ram-shackle house all graphically repre-

sented in music.

So will The Ladykillers soon be returning, musically enhanced, to Britain? Hurnik may be little known over here (undeservedly so, if this opera is anything to go by). but enough people know and love the film to ensure an audience. As yet there are no plans for a transfer,

but Sulkin is optimistic.

It could be an appropriate project for quite a number of companies, not only English National Opera. There's this great upsurge of interest in opera just now, and here's an ideal, commercially viable project all ready to go. It's not a musical pretending to be opera - it's a real opera, but with great popular appeal. Given a good translation, it might even run in the

RADIO REVIEW: Updike reads Updike, and other Gothic tales

being told on BBC radio this Christmas - an excellent use of the airwaves - and one of the best so far has been John Updike's. The Afterlife, read by the author himself (Radio 3, Saturday). Updike was in England during the great storm of 1987, and used the experience in this story.

An American couple, fiftyish, come to visit another American couple who are living in a cottage in Norfolk. Updike knows his England so well, yet can still catch the American surprise at things

English.

The turning point in the story is when the visiting husband. Carter, falls down the stairs in the darkness on the first night, unable to find the "toggle light". He thinks he is going to be killed, then finds himself standing upright on the landing, apparently saved by the

takes them out driving round the countryside, in spite of the mounting gale. Carter watches curious lines of dust being blown up the dry fields, sees the limbs of trees strewn across roads: the earth seems to

Storms in the ether

have lost its moorings. But the changes are not just outside him: it is as though, after "putting on wings" as he fell downstairs, he is now leaving his old life behind him. When they get back to the cottage his host rushes out, crying "My God, where have you people been?" But Carter is surprised and amused that he does not understand "that they were beyond all that now".

The story uses the gale brilliantly to bring out the transformation in Carter — yet it is always a recognisable English gale (defity transferred here from autumn to spring). Updike read the story with easy pace and perfect clarity, unemphatically letting its strangeness

niee talks this week by Phili Dodd are attempting to describe The Gothic Imagination (Radio 3). They range from its obvious beginnings in books like Mary Shelley's Frankenstein to films such as Hitchcock's Psycho. Unfortunately Dodd takes a rather old-fashioned academic approach, tracing recurring themes and supposed influences, rather than asking in any critical way how the monsters and murders serve the purposes of the

very different types of tale.

His most interesting quotation is from an Angela Carter story which turns Little Red Riding Hood on its head, with the girl laughing at the wolf, taking off all her clothes and throwing herself at him. Updike could have got a mention, too—
"The Afterlife" might be seen as a Gothic tale, making the most subtle Gothic tale, making the most subtle use of darkness and mystery, though in my view it does not really help to label it that way.

Actually, the most Gothic thing about these talks is Dodd's heavy, wet hundrious spice I wondered if

wet, lugubtious voice. I wondered if blood was not dripping from his lips on to his script.

DERWENT MAY

ROCK REVIEW: Alan Jackson joins a happy crowd at a Squeeze concert

Tucking in to salt and vinegar

A ithough billed as an acoustic evening, the three hours of entertainment headlined by Squeeze tilted away from conventional notions of guitar-based mini-malism and heavily towards the kind of plate-throwing party atmo-sphere encouraged in certain Greek restaurants. Chris Braides, a young singer-songwriter champi-oned by the top band's Glenn Tilbrook, has material melodic yet thoughtful, which shows him to have a highly original turn of phrase. A debut album is forthcom-

Following him was a man whose music attracted many adjectives during his 1970s heyday, yet never once "thoughtful" or "acoustic". Roy Wood, originally of The Move, latterly of Wizzard, appears exactly the same at 46 as he did at 26 largely invisible beneath a mountain of hair and a luxuriant moustache. A fan pointed out excitedly that he and his eccentric band of players and singers ran through close on 20 songs in the course of a 45-minute set, all but one of them Top 20 hits. It would be unseasonally grumpy to say that every one sounded exactly the same, including the sole item of new material - the usual raucous stomper, this time titled "Kiss Me Goodnight, Boadicea".



Squeeze: Tilbrook and Difford are first and second left, front

Squeeze, in a 90-minute set, married the best elements of both preceding acts with a nicely-judged and executed performance propelled by Tilbrook's winning persona and solid but unflashy singing and playing skills. Elements of Braides's quiet lyticism and the picture postcard humour Wood aspires to are combined in old favourities such as "Cool For Cats" and "Un The Jungtion" — each a and "Up The Junction" - each a rare example of colloquial yet articulate pop song writing, and with a bitter-sweet experience of life

discernible between their respective lines. More recent material proved the enduring worth of Tilbrook's partnership with fellow band member Chris Difford.

That they can fill the (closurethreatened) Town and Country to capacity for three nights running without any recent hits to galvanise the box office says much about the appeal of Squeeze. And that their salt-and-vinegar view of London life kept one of the year's most good-natured crowds rapt throughout, only underlines the point.

Do not let burglars have a merry Christmas at your expense. Nigel Buxton reports



Outwit the opportunist

eyes of the police and the insurance companies it is also the felonious season

December and early January normally see a significant increase in domestic burglary. Housewives absent for long shopping expeditions, businessmen and businesswomen staying late for office celebrations, people away on holiday and out at parties, attractive presents conveniently assembled for collection from the sitting room while the householders are having a drink with the people next door, all offer special temptation to potential thieves.

What can the householder do about it? Locks and bolts constitute an indispensable part of the answer according to both the police and insurance underwriters, but there are also a whole range of other recommended measures.

The battle is psycholog as much a physical," says PC Stephen Gooding, the crime prevention officer for Guild-

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glaries are not carefully premeditated crimes committed by dedicated professionals; 90 per cent are carried out by 'amateurs" aged between 17 and 24 responding to more or less casually perceived opportunity. The typical burglar, says Chief Inspector Peter Seaman, crime prevention of-ficer for Hertfordshire, is aged 14 to 17 and living within a mile or two-of the property he

or she robs.

The first principle of security is to minimise opportunity, says Inspector John Houlgate of Scotland Yard, head of a "Secure by Design" team. Inspector Houlgate and colleagues in nine other police forces in the South East are encouraging architects, build-ers and developers to take more account of security factors. "Blind spots" such as entrance passages and concealed rear areas, ought to be "designed out"; good allround fields of vision ought to

For the householder, the concomitant advice is to make it difficult for a criminal to ford, Surrey. All authorities work without fear of being

EAST ANGLIA

seen. Prevent easy access to secluded gardens or patios; more than 60 per cent of all domestic break-ins occur at the back of houses. Put him (burglars are almost always male) at risk by installing lights that are automatically activated after dark by anyone approaching either the front

Of 400 burglaries only two involved houses with alarm boxes

or rear of the premises.

Are external, visible alarm boxes worth installing? The police consensus is that they are; even if they do nothing else they may scare off the faint-hearted opportunist, and there are a lot more faintabout than people might sup-pose. Of 400 burglaries in the Horsham area of West Sussex

RELOCATION

two involved houses where an risk going for a property that looks as if it's protected when "It stands to reason," says

they're not?" says PC Mike Moore, from Horsham police. There is general agreement, too, about marking property and letting the would-be criminal know that you have done so. The Horsham police say:
"If a burglar sees a window sticker saying that anything worth stealing inside has been post-coded with an ultra-violet marker it at least makes that particular place a good less deal attractive than a lot of other possibilities."

there are plenty that look as if

"It's very important not to look like a soft touch; to turn your property into what the casual criminal will be likely to consider a bad bet." PC Gooding at Guildford says.

One of the prime precau-tions is to deter burglars from choosing your house rather than someone else's, according to the criminologist Dr ennett of Camb University. He reached this view after interviews with convicted burglars. Foremost of. during the past two years only all deterrents, he concluded,

was occupation of the house, or a convincing appearance of

PC Neil Bumford, crime prevention officer for Maidenhead, in Berkshire. "If you're going to burgle someone's property you're more likely to try and do it when you think they're not there than when it looks as if they're at home." Eighty per cent of burglaries, he says, are committed in day-light, with late afternoon being the criminals favourite time. Late afternoon is when most people who go out to work have not yet come home and when mothers have gone to fetch the children from

Giving the appearance of occupation is easier than it used to be. Switches that are programmable or light-sensitive can be used to turn the Christmas tree illuminations on and off, seemingly at random. Radios can be controlled by the same means. barking dog has been suggested as being useful - conditional upon an understanding with the neighbours.

Leaving the car in the driveway at home instead of in the garage or at the airport when going on a skiing holiday is not recommended by PC Moore at Horsham. One person who did that was not only burgled but lost his Jaguar as well. And of course it is no good programming the lights but leaving the curtains open so that after dusk anyone can see the spot-lit Cezanne over the sideboard or the Fragonard over the fireplace. And remember: "Ladders", says a Home Office advice sheet blandly, "should never be left lying around for use by unauthorised persons." Quite part-exchange has been the most popular of all

incentive schemes operation for four years. Peter Jones, its director, says: "We have 16,000 properties

In September, Bristol and West Property Services was the first estate agency group

south of England.
The Hamptons office in Locksbottom. Kent, has been

ALAN Farley and Dr Gra-ham Jackson and his wife are exchanging their proper-ty through Hamptons estate agents. In this case, agency fees will have to be paid, but there are big savings on stamp duty. Mr Farley owns a hatched five-bedroom

house in Shirley Park, near Croydon, south London, with two acres and an outdoor swimming pool. He needed to release some capital and was looking for a property with less land nearby. The Jacksons had been hoping to move from their smaller five-bedroom detached Tudor-style house, to a thatched house and they

had money to spend. Mr Farley, a director of Willmotts auctioneers, says: There have been some incredible savings, apart from the ease of the whole deal. The property I have bought is worth £500,000 and the price of mine is £750,000 so stamp duty is payable on only £250.000." He will pay no duty, and Dr Jackson only £2,500.

Unlock the property chain with a swap

Fed up with waiting for that elusive buyer? Home exchanges are looking increasingly attractive

though some have folded

quickly. One casualty. The Home Owners Exchange.

launched in September in

Salisbury, found that with

database, it was not generating the money it had hoped

One of the survivors is the

National Property Ex-change, of Southsea, Hamp-shire, which has been in

housebuilders'

only 50

properties on its

That do you do if you cannot sell dozen transactions. It has your home? About 800,000 owners are waiting been particularly successful in the upper price ranges, between £200,000 and for that elusive purchaser to walk through the door, ac-£750.000." Another way to part-ex-change is to use one of the cording to figures from the Central Statistical Office. specialist companies, al-

Other people are partexchanging their houses, thus removing the anxiety of the sale or purchase falling through - the fate of up to 60 per cent of potential

Part-exchange involves finding a suitable property to swap with. Whether you use a specialist part-exchange agency, advertise on your own, or part-exchange your home with a newly built home, the savings can be considerable, in time and effort, wear Over the past few years

on your nerves and in stamp duty fees. With part-ex-change, stamp duty is only payable on the difference in the two prices and if that is than £30,000 there will be nothing

to pay.

If you buy from a developer you will, in most cases, have to buy a property that is more expensive than the one you are selling, but you will not have to pay estate agency fees. If you use a specialist agency, you will have to pay a fee which varies from company to company.

to launch a home exchange scheme. Now Hamptons also owned by Bristol and West — is operating a similar . scheme throughout its net-work of 98 offices across the

running part-exchange with-in its own branch for the past 18 months. Justin Flanagan. Hamptons manager, says:

Wales. The exchange market is totally divorced from the estate agency market, as everyone in exchange is a buyer. We put both ends together and bingo. The company charges dients £54.60 including VAT to register for a year. They

on our books and we cover England, Scotland and

receive an immediate report of what properties suit their needs and this is updated every 28 days. After January 1993 the rate will be £69. Another company, Home Exchange News, operates slightly differently. Set up in October 1991 by Mike Mitchell, a publisher, it puts

out a magazine every 12

weeks containing advertise-

ments from people who want "We have completed a to exchange their home. Private sellers can advertise free for four issues, providing there is nothing commercial about their house. The publication costs £9.99 and the last issue dia new

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carried details of 1.500 homes. The next issue is due at the end of this month. The big developers are old hands and have used partexchange as a successful marketing technique for years. Barrett, which leads the field, has part-exchanged 25,000 properties over the past 21 years. Many other

developers run exchange schemes. Gilly Greensit, the Homes Marketing Board's spokeswomlast couple of years part-exchange has been the most popu-lar of all housebuilders' purchaser incentive schemes."

Most developers insist that the house you are buying must be worth more than the one you are selling, 30 per cent more in the case

of Wimpey, 25 per cent with Barratt and a minimum of £30,000 difference for a Countryside Homes property. Chris Crook, sales and marketing director, says that 65 percent of their customers are 'trading-in' their old homes for new ones".

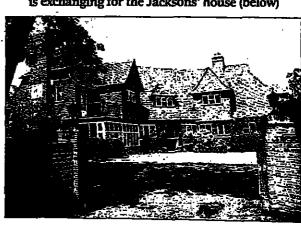
Whether buying old or new, it could be worth getting up and pursuing a part exchange deal rather than waiting for what could be an increasingly elusive buyer.

MARY WILSON

 National Property Exchange,
 PO Box 172, Southsea, Hampshire. PO4 9EN. Telephone 0705 838800. Home Exchange News, 261A East Barnet Road, East Barnet, Hertfordshire, EN4 8SX. Tele-phone 081-447 0014.



All change: Alan Farley (above) outside the home he is exchanging for the Jacksons' house (below)



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Holding on to our heritage

urely it is not possible to "strip your own assets"?
An odd notion, indeed, but the idea of homeowners doing just that lies at the heart of a report from the Victorian Society. It highlights the illegality of removing architectural fixtures from listed buildings. protected not only against de-

In theory, a listed building is molition but against change. Listed Building Consent must be obtained from the local authority if anything is to be altered, and that includes removal of fixtures. But problems often arise out

of the ignorance of owners, and uncertainty over the exact definition of a fixture. Under the 1990 Planning Act, the law should provide blanket coverage via the Listed Building Consent. But the report, entitled Coming Unstuck The Removal of Architectural Fixtures from Listed Buildings. looks at several cases to highlight anomalies.

In 1989 a developer removed panelling from an early 18th Century listed house in London's Soho. Although he was prosecuted and fined £14,000 after someone had spotted the panelling in the street it was too late to save it. The developer claimed ig-

norance of the law. In another case the owner of Mamhead Park in Devon, a The law on listed buildings does not an enquiry can be held, and to offer complete protection. Do the loopholes need to be blocked?

sold ten statues which had been commissioned for its Long Gallery. The local authority was aware of the sale but decided Listed Buildings Consent was not necessary because the statues were not attached to their plinths and therefore not a fixture. In a third case, a £50,000

statue of Icarus plunging into a lake at Leighton Hall, in Powys, was removed by its owner to another of his houses. He was fined £500. The removal of architectural

features by owners is only one aspect of an increasing prob-. lem. The recession has seen many properties being repossessed. As a result, houses often stand vacant for long periods at the mercy of unscrupulous salvagers. Bretforton Manor in War-

wickshire is one such property. A Grade II listed house with parts dating from the 14th century, it passed into the hands of receivers earlier this year having been empty for two years. By the time Knight Frank & Rutley were brought in to sell the property, it had been stripped by persons unlisted Gothic Revival house, known of many features in-

cluding panelling, flagstones and even the main staircase. But this is a story with a happy ending. A buyer has been found, and many of the features have been recovered and will be reinstated.

In some cases there can be problems proving that fixtures came from a particular property Simon Gordon Duff, of Knight Frank & Rutley, who dealt with Bretforton Manor, believes that owners of listed buildings should "photograph any special features so that if anything disappears, it can be easily traced".

So what can be done to stop the problem? Teresa Sladen, secretary of the Victorian Society, has been invited to appear before the all-party heritage committee in the spring of next year. She will be encouraging the environment department to provide more information to owners which dearly states their responsibilities to listed buildings.

She will also be pressing for laws to be clarified. In particular the Victorian Society wants local authorities to be able to issue Stop Notices to prevent any removal of fixtures until

stop retrospective consent being granted.

being granted.

English Heritage has another approach. Peter Davies, who is coordinating its response to what he described as "an enormous problem", believes in self-regulation.

In conjunction with the Council for the Prevention of Art Theft, a newly-formed group, English Heritage is setting up a code of practice for dealers in architectural fixtures. The groups are also looking to establish a Certificate of Provenance for goods over a certain value.

Sometimes, however, the law as it stands does provide the necessary protection. Earlier this year an environment department inspector ruled that several statues could not be removed from the garden of Thoresby Hall in Nottinghamshire, a Grade I listed house. These were not fixed and were outside but the decision was based on their setting and the length of their association with the house. The environment secretary endorsed the decision.

With such enlightened decisions and the actions being recommended by concerned groups, it is possible that listed properties will not end up for sale in bits on the high street.

JAMES FISHER

The young switch off

New figures show that newspapers may be aiming at a lost generation.

Harold Lind reports

here was a cold war joke that the optimist learnt Russian. the pessimist Chinese. The vagaries of politics have rendered that particular thought obsolete, if only temporarily, but a rather similar mood envelops the national press. The optimist believes that the present frightening trend in sales will not get much worse over the next few years. The pessimist believes it will,

The atmosphere is summed up by the introduction to a conference to be held in February by Admap, the magazine for thinking people in the media (hence its small circulation):
"The hitherto unshakable ramparts of national newspapers' stability are shaking. Total national daily sales that have stood at about 15.5 million for 25 years are now a bare 14 million and weakening."

One cannot argue with the figures, but they are open to complex and conflicting interpretations. Since we began with optimist and pessimist, consider them from the viewpoint of our optimist and pessimist. The optimist will accept that the circulation fall, particularly in national dailies, is greater than anything in the last 20 years. But he will point out that there is always some decline during economic depression. although admittedly usually of be-tween 2 and 4 per cent, rather than 8 or 9. However, he will argue that this depression is deeper and longer than anything since the 1930s, so it is not surprising that circulation losses would also be greater.

If so, the position for the nationals is unpleasant, but not disastrous. The slump will end some day, perhaps even next year, and circulations will then stop falling and might even start rising closer to 1990 levels.

The pessimist on the other hand will see the depression as, at most, a trigger

Mirror Daily Express STAR Baily Mail FINANCIAL TIMES FOCIAL THE Baily Telegraph
THE INDEPENDENT

	<u> </u>	R INDE	TUDEN
Age group	1987 (%)	1992 (%)	% change
15-24 25-34	69 66	60 55 59	-13 -17
35-44 45-54	87 72	59 64 64	-12 -11
55-64 65+	70 63	64 63	- 9
All adults	68	60	-12

will argue that the basic reasons that persuaded people to buy newspapers are beginning to crode. An educational system that increasingly seems to regard reading for pleasure as an optional extra and that always seems to place the word "computer" before "literaty" might encourage the sale of computer games, but is hardly likely to do much for newspaper

With one exception, a The under major slump hits all age groups roughly equally. Our great educational revolution got into its stride only in the 1970s or at the 30s will probably be the key earliest the late 1960s so nobody over 35 is likely to be infected. The key age groups will probably be age groups the under 30s.

Unfortunately, the circulation figures cannot be broken down by age, but readership figures can, using the National Readership Survey. The first table shows changes in readership of national newspapers during the past five years. by age group. In total, read-ership fell by 12 per cent, which is reas-onably in line with the known fall in circulations.

There is, however, wide variation between the age groups. People over 65 are reading exactly as much as they

SE PANISHING PEACHER SUBJECTS Pedpe The Mail OBSERVER NEWS OF WORLD

•	ank 9	dumna	ā cen	earahn
	Age group	1987 (%)	1992 (%)	% change
	15-24 25-34 35-44	75 72 73	72 69 68	-4 -4 -7
88: NB	45-54 55-64 65+	78 78 69	73 73 67	-6 -6 -3 _
횗	All adults	74	70	-5

for a more fundamental change. He used to. This gives only limited evidence, since the one group a recession scarcely touches are the retired who have no jobs to lose, but equally they are the people who are absolutely exempt from modern educational practices. All other age groups are reading significantly less, but it is noticeable that the proportional loss increases as the age level falls. The 55-

64 group reads 9 per cent less, which may be largely attributed to the slump, but the 25-34s show almost double that fall. Even the fact that the youngest group, the 15-

24s, shows a smaller loss than the next older group is quite explicable because many of them will still be living with their parents and therefore will probably "look at" the newspapers their

parents buy. For Sunday readership, the pattern at first sight looks surprisingly different from the daily pattern and the circulation figures. It also looks much more

helpful, but I fear this is an illusion.

The difference between readership and circulation simply means that households that used to buy several Sunday papers now buy fewer. The difference in age pattern between Sundays and dailies is more interesting and makes an important point. Since 1987, no new dailies have survived. but two new Sundays, the Independent and the Sport, have.

Any new title depends heavily on young readers. Journalists believe this is due to their trendy writing, although it has more to do with the age pattern of home deliveries versus newsstand sales. Whatever the cause, the result is that the two new titles have boosted the younger readership figures, although not enough to give either a powerful market presence.

So where does this leave our attempt to judge between the optimistic and pessimistic view of the circulation decline? Clearly, some of the fall must be ascribed to the slump. The difference between the working and nonworking population makes that clear. But the behaviour of the 25-34s looks threatening, particularly since just about every newspaper has been trying to appeal to that age group.

If their resistance to buying newspapers continues after the economic recovery, the future for the press will look bleak. As the old Daily Herald was fading, the joke went that when-ever a hearse passed you, you raised your hat and said, "The Herald has lost another reader". Some people may find it less funny if in future every passing hearse diminishes the readership not of one but of all newspapers.

SELLING POINT

A little of what you fancy, for a bit more

ne of life's little enig-mas, about which the chattering classes love to chatter, is why, when it comes to shopping, doesn't everyone behave as sensibly as they do? Why do so many housewives continue to buy the pricey manufacturers' brands when Sainsbury, Safeway and Tesco offer the same things so much cheaper?

During a recession, the chattering continues. You would think nobody in their right mind would pay 73p for Fairy liquid when Sainsbury's equivalent is 63p, and that nobody would pay 14p extra for Kelloggs rather than Tesco corn flakes or waste 11p on Andrex toilet rolls when Safeway's would be softer on the purse.

Yet they do. And even more surprisingly, the latest data from Nielsen, the leading consumer sales research company, shows that retailers' brands have not increased their overall share of the market one iota during the last year.

Nielsen's sales figures, based nationally on 64 different grocery products, show that retailers' own brands account for 23 per cent of the total, and have been static at that level notwithstanding their bargain prices — for ages.

But this 23 per cent average masks considerable variation from product to product — and these variations go a long way towards explaining why housewives do not always behave as economists and the chattering classes think should. They do not, in other words. always buy the cheapest on

In many product sectors, retailers do indeed now rule the roost. Retailers' own products have grabbed more than half the sales of cooking oils, jams and honeys, aluminium foils and dry pasta, to mention but a few.

By contrast, the manufacturers' brands still hold more than 85 per cent of the sales of foods, instant coffee, cooking sauces, canned soups, tissues and detergents.



Winston Fletcher

Why have the retailers made such successful inroads into some product fields but not others? Ad men like me tend to boast (surprise, surprise) that it is thanks to advertising.

So are shoppers being conned, as a recent Office of Fair Trading report implied. into buying more expensive advertised brands, when they could be saving money? During the last decade,

there has been a small revolution in marketing, which has passed largely unnoticed by advertising theorists - as well as by the chattering classes. Ever since the 1950s, it has been increasingly accept-

world is full of very similar products which are differennated from each other only by their advertising and packaging.

The supermarkers are changing all that. In those sectors in which the product formulations were indistinguishable, the supermarkets soon produced their own, equally indistinguishable, substitutes. Naturally, they gave their own offerings lots of their shelf space, and

elbowed the manufacturers. However, in sectors in which manufacturers' brands were really superior. the best the retailers have been able to do is make something not quite so good and sell it a bit cheaper.

This will be instantly confirmed by anyone who has ever brought a jar of their retailers' instant coffee, then watched it linger on the shelf while new consignments of Nescafé arrive and are almost equally instantly des-

patched. But in those fields where the quality of retailers' products is truly on a par with those of the manufacturers' brands, the retailers win out. In the long run, brand

advertising cannot consistently sell a duff product. And the truth is - much as admen hate to face it - that nowadays advertising will rarely succeed in selling a parity product for very long. That is why manufacturers have stopped marketing me-

too trands. And that is why housewives are not behaving foolishly when they pay that little extra for what they

ratings lift, and hence the victory

This raises an interesting dilem-

ma. If ratings are virtually

meaningless as a measure of pro-

gramme worth, how can individual

channels assess the success or failure of their news programmes against their rivals? This has particular significance for the deci-

sion-making process that TV news editors are constantly grappling

with - which stories to run and in

conundrum. For three quarters of

the population, television is the

main source of national and international news; if it is not on the

evening bulletin, it simply is not

happening. Those editorial deci-

sions can determine on a day-to-

day basis what disasters or

political crises or famines the rest

of us are aware of in far-flung places. They play a crucial role in

deciding what the nation thinks

about, talks about even cares

ITN has been accused of going

vhich order to run them. This is not just a journalistic

laurels for our Trevor.





David Elstein: serious damage Liz Forgan: candidate to win the prestige job of BBC1 controller?



TV rivals play musical chairs

Traditionally, every change in the ITV franchises is accompanied by the discreet scuffle of Gucci on carpet. This is the sound of television executives on the move - some are taking juicy jobs with the newly appointed companies, others are moving into their vacated offices and a few are pacing the floor wondering why hey did not make it into either of

the first categories. The latest round of ITV changes has been no exception, but as the old and bitter bow out and the new and nervous take over, there have been last-minute appointments, rumours and rulings that may herald bigger changes in the structure of broadcasting than the Thatcherite Visigoths imagined when they set about tearing down the walls of the

established order. The most extraordinary twist of the past week was the Independent Television Commission's decision not to award the franchise for Channel Five to a Thames Television-led consortium. Thames, still reeling from the commission's decision to give its London ITV franchise to Carlton Television, cannot believe this latest low blow. After all, it ended up as the only consortium bidding, once other contenders had decided the C5 franchise was a licence to lose money. The commission concluded similarly, but Thames argues that it has been unfairly denied the right to fail - a

The scuffle of Gucci shoes in television company offices presages big changes in

basic tenet of a free-market economy and one of the great freedoms of public service broadcasting.

The decision has had one intriguing spin-off. Partly because of his growing disillusionment with the arcane workings of the commission. David Elstein - director of programmes at Thames since 1986 and a true believer in public service television — has quit to preside over the programming and scheduling of BSkyB, long viewed by traditionalists as a lager lout in a gendemen's club.

BSkyB's six channels of sport, news, films and general entertainment reach only 3.5 million homes via satellite or cable, but Mr Elstein believes the service will cause ITV serious damage within five years. Mr Elstein's earliest task will be to rehabilitate Sky One, the underfunded entertainment channel stuffed with American and Austra-

lian imports. From BSkyB's point of view, Mr Elstein's arrival is a neat way of showing the upstart service must be taken seriously. Not only is he the first leading establishment figure to be poached, he has the scheduling skills to make BSkyB compete with

the executive face of the new structure 1TV, the BBC and a growing

number of satellite services. Carlton, too, seems to be worrying about its public image. The new companies are starting in an unpromising financial climate, and cynics are prophesying a race downmarket in search of mass audiences.

nter Jonathan Powell, who joins as Carlton's head of drama after a long stint as controller of BBC1. In a former life, he was the acclaimed producer of BBC adaptations of Dickens, Le Carre, Austen, Scott Fitzgerald and Trollope, and although such rarefied fare is unlikely to play much part in ITV's plans, his appointment at least suggests that the desire to make high-quality drama has not been discarded entirely within the new system.

There are clues to the character of ak-time ITV, however, in the l 1th-hour appointment of Vernon Lawrence as head of both entertainment and drama in the newly formed ITV central scheduling operation, which takes on powers once vested in the programme companies. Mr Lawrence's task

that sings, dances, tells jokes, asks quiz questions or acts on ITV, but

he comes well qualified. As controller of entertainment at Yorkshire Television, he was responsible for such diverse cornedies as Rising Damp and The New Statesman, together with such more or less comedic dramas as The Darling Buds of May and the far-from-funny A Touch of Frost.

There is still one round left in this frantic new year game. When the music stops, who will jump into Mr Powell's chair at the BBC? The smart money is on Liz Forgan, director of programmes at Channel 4 and in recent years one of the few commercial television executives to

defend the BBC publicly. Her eloquent pleas for the protec-tion of public service broadcasting have clearly been appreciated by John Birt, who takes over as director general in the new year.

Whether Mr Birt wants Ms Forgan as a direct replacement for Mr Powell or whether he has even loftier plans for her, he would be gaining the services of a woman who has been highly successful at defending the values of traditional high-quality television in a commercial world - and that is exactly the trick the BBC must pull off if it is to survive the century in anything like the form we know today.

PATRICK STODDART

ere is a prediction. Some time in the new year, . ITN's revamped News at Ten will be hailed a great success. After a wobbly start, the pundits will report. Trevor McDonald's gravitas has won the day. The ewers love it, after all.

Why, after the critical first impressions should there be such a change of heart? Because the ratings for News at Ten are about to climb to dizzy heights not seen since, well, since before the re launch. This prophecy is not based on a sneak preview of the ratings which are strictly under wraps for the next two weeks — but on a straightforward reading of ITV's evening schedules.

For what determines the ratings performance of news bulletins has very little to do with the substance of the programme itself and almost everything to do with the preceding and following pro-grammes. A high-rating ITV programme which finishes at 10pm invariably passes on a generous audience to News at Ten. And a blockbuster feature film which starts before 10pm, then continues after the news will occasionally take ITN into the ratings stratosphere.

The nine to ten-million strong audiences for News at Ten this year have not been generated by pig news stories, such as Black Wednesday, the general election. or the latest instalment in the saga. The news proamme's biggest audiences have all been won by mini-series such as Jack the Ripper, or when films like Die Hard have been wrapped around News at Ten like a peaktime sandwich.

So, for its much-vaunted reaunch on November 9. ITN was at the mercy of ITV schedulers.

Have I got news for you, **Trevor**

Why News at Ten needs a nightly blockbuster to keep ratings up



McDonald: a winning streak

Unfortunately, the schedulers were not very obliging the average ratings for the four weeks after launch simply continued a gentle

decline. In the run-up to Christmas, however. ITV is finally doing the business for News at Ten. Last week, it seemed impossible to find a household that was not tuned to Prime Suspect on Monday and Tuesday. We can expect nine million for the intervening news on both days.

This week, we have a string of movies: on Monday it was Aliens, on Tuesday Heartbreak Ridge and tonight Buster, all punctuated by News at Ten. Hence the certain

Nine O'Clock News

EVENING BULLETIN AUDIENCES

(millions) News at Ten

Weekly average before and after relaunch of News at Ten

"downmarket" in its quest for bigger audiences, a process which allegedly involves trivialisation and more domestic stories at the expense of global ones. ITN vehemently denies the charge, saying that changes have been in style not substance. And yet the day after the Prince and Princess of Wales announcement, News at Ten led its bulletin with the continuing saga

Nine O'Clock News running order. Is this a sign of diverging news agendas from our main news providers? It is only an isolated example, and in the absence of systematic evidence it is impossible to draw firm conclusions.

of the royals while the BBC

relegated it to number six in the

But the new-look ITN is being closely watched by friends and foes alike. If at any time there does appear to be a deliberate trivialisation of its news agenda, the moral of the last few weeks is that it is likely to be a futile strategy. It will not build audiences, and it certainly will not leave the nation better informed.

STEVEN BARNETT The author, who works at the Henley Centre, writes on TV news and current affairs programmes for the British

"The crowd are on the pitch. They think it's all over..."

Discover what happened next in The Times Saturday Review, Boxing Day.

Much hot air expended in the Oxford cricket test

OXFORD versus Cambridge, at the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology in Oxford. We were playing the game we're best at talking. What we were talking about was "Sport and Identity" Actually, it was a bit one-sided: I was the only light blue man there.

Throughout Michaelmas term. Oxford has hosted a wide-ranging series of seminars embracing "Rugby: implicit meanings". "Fe-male bullfighters". "Social Change and soccer in Zimbabwe" and Polo and politics in the Hindu Kush". I went there for Dr Penina Werbner's tantalisingly entitled paper, "On cricket teams and popular culture: contested social spaces among British

Norman Tebbit once infamously decreed that Test matches were henceforth to be a test of nationality. If you rooted for Pakistan and not England, then you shouldn't be carrying a United Kingdom passport. "On that criterion all British Pakistanis will just have to be sent home," Dr Werbner said. I have often expressed similar

sentiments to my Australian wife when we clash over the Ashes. "But I am home," she replies, presumably echoing the British Pakistani. I know how she feels: I support West Ham United, but 1 wouldn't necessarily want to live on Green Street.

Dr Werbner wasn't of course recommending mass deportation, but only observing that a sizeable number of British natives, cocking a snook at Walthamstow Man, still don't automatically support the England team. I should think that will include David Gower and rebellious Gowerphiles this winter. Dr Werbner distinguished three

"cultural domains" among British Pakistanis: Islam, weddings and cricket. Theology, she argued, was dominated by ascetic old men, matrimony by lusty young women. Andy Martin has his say on academic debates

devoted to probing the deeper meanings

to be uncovered at the heart of the sporting life

and cricket by aggressive young men. The conclusion that cricket is a substitute for religion and sex seemed to beckon. And then she brought up Imran Khan, who effectively dislodged the bails from at least the second half of that

proposition, adding that the former Pakistan captain has hither to fought shy of the cultural domain of the wedding.

There is something deeply phallic in the ritual of cricket. Playing about with has and halls is to about with bats and balls is, to quote Dr Werbner, a "symbolic practice". Even the vocabulary of the game - with its "prodding" and "flashing" and "maidens" -

I think it was George Bernard

bears out the connection.

Shaw who said that God invented the game of cricket to give the faithless Englishman a sense of eternity. Most true disciples are convinced that it is all the other way round, that religion and sex are really poor substitutes for cricket and are just a way of passing the time until next season. For British Pakistanis, cricket is

"transgressive" according to Dr Werbner a way of contesting the authority of the mullahs, since "to have fun is sinful, and to be sinful is fun". But the 1992 World Cup final between Pakistan and England in Melbourne was more like burning The Satanic Verses, an opportunity for brandishing a common Muslim identity. Dr Werbner's Goweresque dab at my question to do with balldoctoring suggested that she was stronger on the theory of cricket than on recent practice. She disappointed my hopes for a scoop on the uses and abuses of bottle tops, but argued that the issue was emblematic of the politicisation of

Perhaps cricket never was unpolitical. The hard red ball was just one of the many weapons we used to defend the outposts of Empire, little thinking it would blow up in our faces when the colonies started bowling it back at us even faster.

Dr Peter Parkes drew parallels with the polo wars of the Hindu Kush, between hardline advocates of Hurlingham rules — imported by the Tenth Hussars in the nineteenth century - and rebel partisans of the ancient game derived from Persia in the fifth century BC.

Another theory was kicked

may have been decided by a football, since the Indian Mutiny of 1857 was sparked off by our profane use of cowhide and pig bladders that blew the whistle on us as infidels.

Dr Jeremy MacClancy, the convenor of the Oxford seminars, is a post-feminist Hemingway who challenges our conventional notions of "gender stereotyping" through his research on the female matadors who were outlawed under Franco but are now enjoying a comeback.

These academic debates remind us that the subject of sport doesn't belong only on the back pages and in the betting shops, but equally amid the cloisters. There is no contradiction in bringing the mind to bear on the performance of the body. Sport is philosophy in shorts. It holds up the mirror to man, reflecting images of our society, history, and morals.



ICC withdraws invitation to former England batsman

Pakistan manage to block Graveney's appointment

Council (ICC) yesterday bowed to pressure from Pakistan and withdrew its invitation to Tom Graveney, the former England batsman, to act as the match referee for the Test series and one-day internationals between West Indies

Gravency, 65, was told that the job would be going to someone else following Pakistan's objections to his appointment because of comments he had made five years ago after the bitter onfield slanging match between the then England captain, Mike Gatting, and the um-

Melbourne: Dean Jones was

yesterday left out of the Austra-

lia team for the second Test

match against West Indies.

Jones, the Victoria batsman,

who was twelfth man for the

first Test in Brisbane, has had

only three first-class innings

this season for scores of nine,

14 and one and was denied

the chance to impress selectors

this week when a tour match

The young leg-spinner, Shane Warne, comes in to the

12 at Jones's expense. Warne

impressed against the West

Indians in the Australian XI

washed out.

"They have been cheating us for 37 years and it is just getting worse and worse," Graveney said on television soon after the incident.

His cause cannot have been helped by the strained relations between the English and Pakistan cricket authorities following last season's allegations of ball-tampering against the Pakistan bowlers. I'm afraid Tom pressed the self-destruction button himself by making those comments," the ICC secretary, Colonel John Stephenson, said. "It is a great shame but he must be

Australia drop Jones for Test

and took five wickets for

Victoria in his last Sheffield

Shield match against Western

The left-arm pace bowler,

Bruce Reid, was not considered for the match because of a

shoulder injury and will be replaced by the New South

Wales fast bowler, Mike Whit-

ney. Allan Border will again

captain the side, resuming the leadership from Mark Taylor.

after a hamstring injury ruled him out of Australia's last four

one-day matches. The second

Test begins at the Melbourne

Cricket Ground on Saturday.

After the squad was an-

Australia.

referees is growing but they must have the absolute backing of both countries involved in a series. Clearly, Tom does not have that backing from

"There will be many other" countries who will give Tom support and we will find him another job," Stephenson

A replacement for the series in the Caribbean, which includes five one-day internationals and three Tests between March 23 and May 6, is likely to be named within

Phil Neale, like Graveney, a asked to stand down. It is quite clear that the stature of ICC

no way he would be able to

Test after being dropped.

bring himself to attend the

ing out and I don't think I'll be

going to the test now," he said.
"It would hurt too much and I

think will probably go away

with my family for Christmas,

which I haven't done for seven

or eight years. I sincerely

believe I'm pushing uphill to

SUMMER."

AUSTRALIA SQUAD: A Border (Cusens-lend, captain), M Taylor (New South Wates), D Boon (Tasmaria), I Healy Queensend), M Haghes (Vetoria), C McDermott (Cusensland), D Martyn (West-em Australia), G Methiewe (New South Wates), S Wenne (McIora), M Waugh (New South Wates), S Waugh (New South Wates), S Waugh (New South Wates), M Whitiney (New South

"I'm devastated to be miss-

tor of cricket. Neale, 38, has agreed a three-year contract and will take up his duties on March I. The post was left vacant at the end of last season when Procter became South Africa's full-time team

Neale said yesterday: "I feel I've still got something to offer in the game, and I was keen to move into cricket management when I finished playing.

"Northamptonshire's players tasted some success last year and I know they'll now want more. I hope my experience with successful teams at Worcester will help them get

Neale, who led Worcestershire to five important trophies, including successive Britannic Assurance county championship titles in 1988 and 1989, is likely to have a wider-ranging role than Procter, according to Steve Coverdale, the Northamptonshire chief executive.

"Mike concentrated heavily on first-team matters and Phil will still have a significent input there. But we see it as a vital part of his new job that he develops Northamptonshire's teams of the future."

Worcestershire player in 1975 and was captain between 1982 and 1991, before giving way to Tim Curtis. A former professional footballer, he has an honours degree in Russian from Leeds University.



Run of success: the awards keep rolling in for Britain's Olympic athlet-ics gold medal-winners, Sally Gunnell and Linford Christie, above. A week after taking out the top prizes from the sports writers' association, Gunnell, jumper, Steve Smith, and javelin

the women's 400 metres hurdles champion in Barcelona, and Christie, the 100 metres winner, have been named track athletes of the year by the jumper, Steve Smith, and javelin

Americans begin to influence Cheshire

thrower, Tessa Sanderson, gained the field athletes' awards, while the team prize was won by Britain's 4 x 100 metres junior men's team. The winners receive a £2.000 training award from the sponsor, Vauxhall

Tendulkar provides Mujtaba hits century lesson for students in Pakistan victory

East London: Sachin Tendulkar was the only Indian batsmen to take advantage of the relatively easy pickings available when the touring team's three-day match with a South African students XI continued here yesterday (Richard Streeton writes). Tendulkar made a chanceless 131 and, by the close, the Indians were 273 for eight for a first innings lead of 99 runs.

Of those in need of time in the middle, Shastri, Raman and Azharuddin all missed the chance to take useful practice before the third Test match starts on Boxing Day. Manjrekar stayed three hours at the crease for 43, but his timing and confidence seldom looked any better than it has done during his recent

Raman was caught behind, Shashtri drove a high catch against Huckle, a leg spinner,

Answers from page 32

SQUAREHEAD

WALPURGITE

while Azharuddin was run out for the fourth time on the tour after a dreadful misunder-standing with Tendulkar. Though he had quiet periods, Tendulkar played some immaculate strokes as he batted for 4hr 37min.

He on-drove Huckle for a six and had also hit 13 fours when he was caught at backward point just before the

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-29, 2-53, 3-162, 4-163, 5-216, 6-239, 7-267, 8-273. BOWLING: Veenstra 7-2-17-0 (nb3): Handman 21-7-69-4 (v1, nb1): Huckle 19-1-94-2 (nb1): Laing 23-7-63-1; Abrahame, 22-4-2 (nb.):

WORD WATCHING

(c) An honest person, one who is not a criminal, from square + Common suffix -head: "Honesty among thieves is undoubtedly the production of a squarehead or sham thief, a good thief will rob

WALFORGITE

(b) A hydrous arsenate of bismuth and translum found as yellow, translucent or transparent triclinic crystals, from Walpurgis, the name of the vein in a mine near Schneeberg in Germany where the first specimen was found: "Walpurgite is a secondary mineral, found in the oxydised zone of a vein carrying manimite, cobalt and nickel arsenides, and native bismuth from which the U, Bl, and As content of the mineral has been derived."

PENN!

(a) A Finnish monetary unit equivalent to one-hundredth of the markka, also the name of the coin equal to this amount: "In the later nineteenth century a distinctive coinage began to be issued by the cars of Russia as grand-dakes of Finland. The monetary unit wan the silver mark, divided into 100 pannia. A monetary reform in 1963 introduced a new markka equivalent to 160 old markkas. The types of the former I and 5 markkas coins have been retained for the new I and 2 pennia pieces in bronze."

(a) To make redundant or to be redundant, to contain a redundancy, a shortened back-formation from redundant: "Twe worked here before,' said another, 'but I was redunded in May'." "The phrase 'inadvertently forgotten' does not redund so much as appears."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

Black decides matters with a neat sacrifice: 1 ... Qxh4+! 2 gxh4

Brisbane: Asif Mujtaba scored his second unbeaten century of the match to steer the Pakistanis to an exciting five-wicket win over Queens-land with four balls to spare at the Gabba yesterday.

Set 291 to win the four-day match, the Pakistanis reached their target despite the loss of two early wickets. The left-handed Mujtaba finished 125 not out for a match aggregate to 227. Other important contributions for the Pakistanis were by Saeed Anwar, who made 72, and Inzamam-ul-Haq, 42. Most significant for the Australians was the return to form of the Test captain, Allan Border, out of action in recent weeks because of a leg injury. Border was I 16 not out when Queensland declared at 398 for seven in their second innings. (Reuter)

QUEENSLAND: First Innings 280 (M L
Haydan 79, T J Barsby 53; Mushtan Ahmed
4 tor 70). Total (7 wide dec) ______ 391 M Kasprowicz and G Rowell did not bet. SOMLING: Westin Alexan 21-7-43-1 (nb4); Acib Jaled 12-2-34-0 (nb1); Naved Anum 18-0-107-1 (nb5); Mushaq Ahmad 30-3-136-4 (vrl); Shahid Seed 7-0-31-0; Asmir Sohali 2-0-13-0; Asif Mutaba 5-1-15-0. PAKISTANIS: First Innings 388-6 dec (Asif Multaba 102, Shahid Sased 83, Inzamam-ul-Haq 83, Aamir Sohall 65).

BASKETBALL

By Nicholas Harling

AS A club that had set its stall laudably with an all-English policy. Cheshire Jets went slightly against the grain with a call for foreign reinforcements.

Cheshire finished bottom of the Carlsberg League first division last season with only two wins, and were heading that way again after a third of the present campaign. Then, Mike Burton, the coach, decided to recruit two Americans. "Basically, we wouldn't have ended the season," Burton said. "We just weren't competing. It was embarr-

As assistant to Kevin Cadle,

the England coach, Burton used his best contact to bring in Tyrone Thomas from Buffalo, Cadle's home town. Doug Herring, who came via an agent in New York, has been just as much an asset, or at least he was until seven seconds from the end of the match at London Towers on

Then, with Towers hanging on to a 71-70 advantage after leading by 12 points. Herring fouled Andrew Bailey, also committing a technical offence. Bailey sank the four free shots to give Towers a flatter-ing 75-70 success and some revenge for the previous week's National Cup exit in

Herring's lapse did nothing to alter Burton's belief in him or his relief that he had not put the American on the first plane home. "He didn't let us know, when he arrived, that he was on anti-biotics because of a stomach bug," Burton said. "I thought this guy can't

Barry Abercrombie, a 6ft 9in forward just released by Boston Celtics, was set to step in as a replacement when Herring began to perform. We couldn't fire him then." Burton said, sensing that Herring and Thomas now possess the capacity to add to Cheshire's one league victory and take the club into mid-table by

In the nearer future, Cheshire are looking forward to an intriguing home cup quarterfinal against Thames Valley Tigers, which may not be the formality it might have been. even though the Carlsberg League leaders maintained their four-point advantage with victories over Birmingham Bullets and Sun-derland Saints.

In a hectic weekend, Tigers also wiped out a six-point deficit from the first leg of the NatWest Trophy semi-final against Leicester to take the second leg 114-98 and the rie 220-210. Worthing Bears, on the Tigers' tails, won league matches at Oldham and Manchester.

CYCLING

Bray ends his year on high note

By Peter Bryan

A SEE-SAW year of success and disappointment is ending on a high note that Simon Bray, the national road race champion, hopes will prove the foundation to good times in international competition

He spent this year racing in France with one aim in mind - winning the British 90miles road race title at Buxton in September. It was a closerun thing. Bray. 26, from Oakham, crossed the line behind Steve Farrell, his arm raised in protest that he had been obstructed on the run-in to the finish. His objection was upheld, he was champion and

Farrell relegated to second

The season's sojourn in

France was a generous act on the part of his employers. Laings, the construction company, who gave him a sabbatical.

The bad news came a month after his victory when he accepted redundancy, but, soon after, he was in good spirits when his old dub in Limoges, France, offered him a contract to race for them again in 1993. 🕟 Yesterday, there came even

better news. Bray was put on the national squad and awarded his major international spurs when he was told he is to lead Britain's five-man team in February's two-week Momentum-Rapport Pro-Am tour in South Africa as part of his preparation for the Milk the Milk Race.

Race. Before the South African tour. Bray will ride a series of city centre races, which he expects "will do me the world

His racing weight is just under 10st and, as a lightweight, he should do well in his aim to take the climbing prize in the Milk Race, which starts from Tunbridge Wells in May. Bray will undergo a series of

physiology tests early next month to establish his baseline fitness level and these will be repeated at the end of the tour, so that he can further fine-tune his training and racing programme in France to help coincide with a peak for the challenge presented by

Scottish League First division Meadowbank v Stirting Tennents Scottish Cup Second-round replay Arbroath v Gala Fairydean Allos v East Fife

COCA-COLA CUP: Fourth round: Postponed: Scarborough v Arsenal. AUTOGLASS TROPHY: First round: Postponed: Wigan v Preston, PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First chivation: Blackburn v Liverpool (7.0); Leeds. v Newcastle (7.0); Manchester United v Bolton; Sunderland v Alternicester City (7.0). Second division (7.0); Bradiord v Port Vale; Burnley v Coventry; Hull v York, Middlessbrough v Evenor; Scurnhorpe v Huddersfield.

MEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION:
First division: Brighton v Norwich (2.0);
Fuftern v Portsmouth (2.0); Oxford United v Chelsea. Second division:
Chelsenham v Bristol Rovers; Swansee v Birningham; Yeovil v Bournemouth (7.45).

FA VASE: Third round: Berton v Diss. RUGBY LEAGUE REGALTROPHY: Postponed: Bradford **AMERICAN FOOTBALL**

Cowboys follow Aikman to divisional honours

TROY Aikman passed for 239 yards and three scores and Emmitt Smith rushed for 174 yards and a pair of 29-yard touchdowns on Monday as the Dallas Cowboys clinched the National Football Conference East championship with a 41-17 win over the Atlanta Falcons (Robert Kirley writes). With 12 victories, three

defeats and one game to play. the Cowboys took their first divisional title since 1985. Just three seasons ago, they had a record of one win and 15 losses. They earned a bye for the first round of the play-offs and will host a divisional game on January 9 or 10. Atlanta withered to six wins

and nine defeats. Dallas took control in the

second quarter when Aikman hit scoring tosses of 11 yards to Kelvin Martin and 18 yards to Jay Novacek and Lin Elliott kicked a 22-yard field goal for a 20-7 lead. Aikman completed 18 of 21 passes, including 13 in a row in the first half. Dallas broke the game open in the third quarter with two touchdowns in 25 seconds,

Smith made it 41-10 with 13 minutes to play. He leads the conference with 1.582 rushing yards — five behind Barry Foster, of Pittsburgh — and paces the league with 17 touchdowns.

The final two play-off positions will be determined at the weekend: Denver or Kansas ity, who play each other, and

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RUGBY UNION

Barbarian call the

ideal chance for

Bates to impress

Michael Seely finds trainer Mary Reveley keen to have the record of her horses do the talking

Letting actions speak louder than words

Britain's most suc-cessful dual purpose trainers, believes in letting her horses do the talking. No self publicist, the farmer's daughter from Lingdale, North Yorkshire, is low key enough about her remarkable achievements to make Geoffrey Boycott look flam-

For the past week, National Hunt fans have been savouring the prospect of a meeting between Cab On Target, Bar-ton Bank and Forest Sun in the Tripleprint Feltham Chase at Kempton on Boxing day.

But, with the welfare of her horses always uppermost in her mind, Mrs Reveley has yet to decide whether to let Cab On Target go for the grade one three-mile event, or wait for the softer option of the two and a half mile Bonusfilm Chase later in the afternoon.

The main target is still the Tripleprint," she said. "But if it's very soft, we might go for the two and a half mile instead. Cab On Target has so much speed that it's in the back of our minds that he may be more effective over that trip at present. It's nothing to do with the strength of the opposition. And with the bad weather conditions we haven't been able to get as much work

into him as we want." The trainer refuses to be drawn on the outcome. "They are three very good horses, and even if Cab On Target finishes only third, it won't

make him any worse a horse." So dramatic has been the rise to fame of this accomplished horsemaster and her jockey, Peter Niven, that recently they received the Horserace Writers' Association's award as National Hunt trainer and jockey of the year.

The 150 acres of Ground-hill Farm has always been home not only to Mrs Reveley but also before that to her father, Harry, who was equally involved in the world of racing and breeding.

She progressed from showing ponies to training point-topointers, to permit holding and, finally, to a full licence in 1980 when Lottie Lehmann, later the dam of Mellottie. gave the new public stable its first victory at Sedgefield.

Above all, this is a close knit

family affair, with the trainer's husband, George, and her youngest son, John, running the dairy farm. Keith, the eldest son, is totally committed to racing and is heir apparent to the operation.

"I hope he'll take over from me. When you've got a goal like that to aim for, it's a big incentive to try and do better all the time."

Mrs Reveley saddled 99 winners last National Hunt season. She has trained over 100 winners during the past two Flat seasons combined and had over 100 winners during the calendar year 1991. She is currently ninth behind David Nicholson in the trainers' table with a strike rate of 28 per cent, equal to that of Martin Pipe and inferior only to Nicholson's.

Like Pipe, the champion trainer, she specialises in producing horses fit to run for their lives first time out and her proportion of 20 winners from 60 first time out starters, 33 per cent, is the best in the country at present.

Although Cab On Target is the most promising chaser she has handled, the trainer's biggest success came when Dalkey Sound won the Golden Spurs Chase in 1991. On the Flat her most notable



Target practice: Mary Reveley must weigh the Boxing day alternatives for her talented steeplechaser Cab On Target

performer has been Mellottie, who, besides his 1991 Cambridgeshire win, was heavily backed when beating Rain-bow Corner in a listed race at Newmarket last October.

Niven has always played a major part in the success story. The 28-year-old Petthshire-

born rider is third to Richard Dunwoody, despite having been out of action for about a

fortnight with severe bruising. He rode out yesterday and pronounced himself fit for Boxing day. "Usually, I only ride middle-of-the-road horses and just keep ticking along,

but Cab On Target seems to have everything, including a turn of foot. It's almost too good to be true."

Mrs Reveley was a lifelong admirer of Arthur Stephenson and, like the late and great trainer who preferred to stay at home rather than make long journeys south, she does not intend to travel to Kempton on Saturday.

"On Christmas Day we have a right party. There's about 40 of us, all the family and others who live too far away from home. But on Boxing day, I'll probably go to Sedgefield."

Hunter plays in his interna-tional position on the wing instead of Tony Stanger, who

will be appearing for Scotland A in Dublin. Bates, the Wasps scrum half snapping at the heels of England's Dewi Morris, replaces Gary Armstrong. who has opted to play for Jed-Forest, his club, in a league

Bedford Modern

It will represent another opportunity for Bates to impress in good company. Although London's divisional championship challenge fell away, Bates did himself no harm, in particular in the tight game against the South and South-West where he was opposed by Richard Hill, En-gland's most capped scrum haif. Bates has only one cap to his credit so far, against Romania in 1989, and would welcome the chance to slough

NO SOONER had they con-

firmed their XV to play

Leicester next Monday than

the Barbarians found them-

selves having to change. Ian

Hunter and Steve Bates will

play in their back division, bringing to five the number of English players who will also

be required for senior squad

training in Lanzarote three

days later.

match.

off the "one cap wonder" tag. Leicester. meanwhile, field three players who will be required in Lanzarote and three more who are not but who, nevertheless, may come into representative consideration this season. Both the Underwood brothers play, as does Martin Johnson, who is now pushing Wade Dooley very hard for an international

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT The club back row includes Neil Back and Dean Richards, the first time for five years that Richards has appeared against the Barbar-ians, injury having kept him out of the last four games. He is unavailable for Lanzarote, family and job requiring his prime attention after devoting so much to rugby over the past two years; if England want him, he says, he will always be

available. England thought last sea-son that they did not, but it was Richards who occupied the No. 8 position by the end of the five nations' champion-ship. For other reasons, England do not require Back either, an opinion they may yet revise, while the third player who has been attracting attention is Darren Garforth.

the tight-head prop.

Jeff Probyn, the England prop, rates the young Leicester front row of Garforth, Richard Cockerill and Graham Rowntree as the best balance of the newcomers in their position in the country. Garforth, 26, has yet to progress beyond divisional level, but his strength in the set pieces and his mobility may yet earn him higher honours.

hOnours.
LEICESTER: J Ley: T Underwood, S Potter, I Bates, R Underwood; J Harrs, A Kardoom: G Rowntree, R Cockerff, D Gerforth, J Wells, M Johnson, M Poole, N Back, D Richards.
BARBARIANS: G Hastings (Watsonans and Scoliand), J B Latond (Begles and France), F Meene (Racing and France), L Walker (Rendwick, Wandsers and Australia), J Hunter (Northemyton and England); C Chalmers (Mercoe and Scoliand), S Bettes (Wasps and England), M Linnett (Moseley and England), J Oliver (Northampton and England), J Probyn (Wasps and England), S Loyd (Moseley), D Cronin (London Scotish and Scotiand), T Rodber (Northampton and England), E Peters (Cambridge University), L Cabannes (Rocing and France)

Nicholson facing Doyle takes **SCHOOLS SPORT** £5,000 fine threat

By Michael Seely

day threatened with a £5,000 vourite. They then go 7-1 line if the trainer leaves Baydon Star, 8-1 Vintage Mighty Mogul in at the Crop, who may run if there is overnight stage for The no further weight rise. Ladbroke on January 9 with no intention of running Shir-

ley Robins's fine hurdler. At yesterday's declaration stage, when the original top weight, Halkopous, and The Iliad were withdrawn, Mighty-Mogul had his weight raised to 12 stone.

Baydon Star, in the same ownership and also trained by Nicholson, is now on the 11 stone mark. But although the much-improved five-year-old is leniently handicapped after his wide-margin victory at Ascot, the trainer does not want to run if the weights are raised too sharply if Mighty Mogul were to be withdrawn.

The warning is clear and unambiguous. Tony Corcoran, the Leopardstown course manager, has told the trainer that he would be reported to the Jockey Club as well as being fined for bringing racing into disrepute by deliberately manipulating the rules. Corcoran's position was supported by Michael Keogh. registrar of the Irish Steeple-

chase Committee.

a Cheshin

install houng

Nicholson has still not decided whether to run Mighty Moeul in next Monday Christmas Hurdle at Kempton. "He'll only go if the ground is very soft." said the "The alternative would be to go for the Spa Hurdle at Cheltenham."

Other news on Kempton's Monday feature is that Royal Gait is not a certain runner, the alternative being the Leopardstown Bookmakers Hurdle.

In the same race, Peter Scudamore has not decided whether to ride Granville Again or go to Chepstow to take the mount on Run For Free, the 9-4 favourite for the Coral Welsh National the

At yesterday's declaration stage, 15 horses stood their ground of which a third are trained by Martin Pipe.

Although Minnehoma, a disappointment when beaten at Ascot on Saturday, schooled satisfactorily at Nicholashayne yesterday, no running deci-sion will be taken until decla-

DAVID Nicholson was yester- Bitofabanter as their 6-1 fa-

trainer.

same afternoon.

The sponsors have ration time today.

over lease at Arkenfield

JACKIE Doyle has taken over the lease at the picturesque Arkenfield Stables in Berkshire.

The Compton yard was the setting for the recent BBC series Trainer, which was of poor viewing figures.

With the set dismantled, Doyle, the former wife of trainer Bill Perrin, vesterday moved her 16-horse team to Arkenfield, which is really known as Hamilton Racing

She was, however, no fan of Trainer: "I thought it was a bit silly and boring. But I enjoyed looking at Mark Greenstreet," she said. Greenstreet played the principal character. Mike

Hardy. Formerly based Buntingford, near Royston, Doyle is leasing the yard from Peter Cundell, who also trains in the village and was an adviser on the series.

She said: "The fact the stable was part of the film set didn't influence my move. I toured the country looking for the right place and was impressed by the gallops that come with this yard. They must be the best in Britain." Hardy's best horse was

Dangerous Lady, and Doyle considers she has something special under her care, a halfbrother to star juvenile Zafonic, called Roneo. The four-year-old was previously

with Maurice Zilber.

Ryan has double celebration

WILLIE Ryan completed his first century of winners yesterday after Eastleigh had sur-vived a stewards enquiry in the Levy Board Claiming Stakes at Lingfield.

It was the cause of a double celebration for Ryan as he was reaching the milestone on his 28th birthday. Having broken the shackles

of the nervous nineties, Ryan on to record four-timer - all of them uniquely achieved by a short Many seasoned racegoers

expected him to lose out after Eastleigh - sent through the narrowest of gaps approaching the final furlong — badly hampered Faynaz on his inner.

Apprentice Kim McDonnell, forced to snatch up, was lucky not to go over the rail, but Gary Bardwell later

Going: stendard
12.00 (1m) 1, I'LLEAVEITOYOU (G Carrer, 14-1); 2, Heart Of Spain (N Pajen, 2-1 Sw); 3, Statled (D Biggs, 7-2), ALSO RAN: 5 Buglist, 13-2 High Summer (Sth), 10 The Atheling. 12 Houchisecoches Man (4th), 16 Honorary Guest, 33 Nigels Prospect (6th), 9 ran NR: Red Edge, 22-1, rk, 4, 44, rk, S Dow at Epson, Tote: £11.20; £2.40, £1.10, £2.00 (DE: \$15.90, CSF: £01.75, min 40.04sec.) 12.80 (1m) 1, CONVOY (M Hills, 71-8 lav); 2, One Oft The Rail IB Rouse, 15-8, 3, Stevie's Wonder (N Gwillerms, 50-1), ALSO RAN: 7-2 Sporting Massile (4th), 14 Tacalam (6th), 20 Aragon King (Sth), Grey Weitch, Beyond The Limit, 33 One More Pound, 50 Peste Vino, 10 ran, Nr, 51, 114, 23, 31 G Wragg at Newmerlett, Tote: £2.20, £1:10, £1.50, CF; £2.71 Imm 39.83esec.

39.83esc.
1.00 (1m) 1, EASTLEIGH (W Ryan, 5-1), 2-Guesstimetion (G Berciwell, 12-1); 3, Dencing Beau (J Williams, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 3 are Utackles (4th), 5 Sunley Silvs, 7 Native Chelten (5th), 8 Up The Punjab, 12 Predictable, 20 Genuine Lucky, 25 Feynaz (6th), 50 Botton Rhyr, 85 Emertaid Ears 12 am Shind, 21, 31, 115, 34. R Hollinsheed at Upper

admitted the incident was caused by Guesstimation, the short-head runner-up. going left across the winner. Ryan was cheered on by his

father Denis, who rode the first winner for Eastleigh's owner, John Biggs, 37 years



- RESULTS PROM INGREED PARK / ESTERDAY

*Longdon, Total: 26.20; £1.70, £5.40, £2.80.
DP: £78.20, CSF: £51.09, 1min 38.90sec.
After a stawards 'enquiry, result stood.
1.30 (71) 1, MASTER HYDE (D Biggs, 7-1);
2. Spencer's Revenge (Dean McKeown, 10-11; 3, On Y Va (M Hits, 100-90; ALSO RAN: 8-4 to Baswald, 4th), 13-2 Sathy's Son (8th), 12-Pop To Stans, Preclaus Wonder, 35 Mare Creats, 50 Looting (Eth), 9 ran; 11, 4tl, 114, 314, 314, P Mitchell at Epsom. Toes: £7.10; £2.00, £7.20, £7.20, DF: £33.30, CSF: £56.30, Tricest: £250.65, 1min 25,08sec.

25.06sec.
2.00 (6) 1. RESPECTABLE JONES (W Ryan, 1-4 law); 2, Creche (N Day, 4-1), 3, Garnini Bey (S Deason, 20-1). ALSO FAN: 20 Lord Neptune (5th), 25 Joe Sugden (8th), Nigels Friend, 50 Cherrywood Lass (4th). 7 ran. Nr. Baljinski, 5h nd, 15, 11, 3%, 34, 34, R Hollinshead at Upper Longdon, Total: £1.60; 51, 10, 520, 0.55.

rafi. NR: Belinski. Sh hō, 15, 11, 354; M; R Holinshead at Upper Longdon. Tote: £1,80. £1,10, £2,20, DF: £1,70, CSF, £2,12, 1mm 11,74sec. 2.30 (7) 1, EXCRSS BAGGAGE (W Ryen, 4-1): 2, Absolutely Fac; 17 Quinn, 4-1): 3, Stichetis (B Rouse, 5-1). ALSO RAN 100-30 fav Pipers Real, 8 Rueno (Sh), 12 Knobb-teeneze; 44th), 16 War Requent, 25 Ep-ress Marleoune, 33 Kafloos (Sh), Silent

for Henry Cecil, said: "I have always wanted to reach the century and it's nice to do it for Reg Hollinshead, who I was for four-and-a-half The Upper Longdon trainer

completed a double when Respectable Jones - claimed out of Toby Balding's stable last week — narrowly justified 4-1 on favouritism in the Light Brigade Claiming Stakes.

Excess Baggage also had Ryan at full stretch in the Inkerman Nursery, coming from last place to catch Abso-

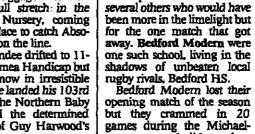
lutely Fact on the line. Lady Dundee drifted to 11-2 in the Crimea Handicap but Rvan was now in irresistible form and he landed his 103rd success as the Northern Baby filly denied the determined challenge of Guy Harwood's

25.92990.

3.00 (Im 51) 1, DR ZEVA (D Winght, 6-1); 2, Vintage (J Williams, 9-4 tay); 3, Kenyatta (Km McDonnels, 1D-1). ALSO RAN 5-2 Empery Alexander (Sth), 6 Inden Tembry (4th), 12 Pusey Street Boy, 25 Kovalevskia (Sth), May Square, Winyward Son, 9 ran. 1141, hd, 51, sh hd, 394. M Decon at Epsom. Toes: £3 60; £2 20, £1,60, £3.00. DF: £16.50. CSF: £24.34. Tricsst: £163 22. 2mm 47.3489c.

2mu 47.34sec.
3.30 (Im 2) 1, LADY DUNDEE (W Ryan, 11-2; Thunderer's nep); 2, Muiciber (G Carter, 9-2); 3, Va Utu (Dale Gàson, 7-2); 3, Va Utu (Dale Gàson, 7-2); 4, Va Utu (Dale Gàson, 7-2); 6-2; 8-3 (Nather); 6-3 (Nather)

Piecepot: £18.70.



Bedford Modern lost their opening match of the season but they crammed in 20 games during the Michaelmas term and did not lose Even more encouraging for

THE all-conquering rugby ex-

naturally taken a lion's share of the plaudits. But there are

Andy Whittle, the master in charge of rugby, was the manner of the victories. The first team scored 41 tries down both wings. Leading the way down the right was Chris Taffs, who scored 25, suffered a back injury but still managed four tries in the last match of the season, a 42-9 drubbing of Royal Grammer

School High Wycombe. On the left wing, Giles Whitheat scored 16 tries and Mark Brownridge, the regular goalicker, passed 100 points for the season.

"We scored 594 points and conceded 130, which illustrates the open rugby we have been playing," Whittle said.

lead the backlash **BY CHRIS DIGHTON** Llandovery were heaten 23-17 by Monmonth but ploits of those school teams Colwyn Bay 39-3, and then over-ran Downside 48-9 after struggling to a 0-6 lead at halftime. In both those matches Russell Mahly, the Llandovery wing, scored two tries, and Chris Atkinson landed 18

points in the Downside victory. Colston's Collegiate School in Bristol lost only one of their il fixtures when they were beaten 10-8 at Bromsgrove but recovered in some style. crushing West Buckland. Colston's ended the term with a record of 285 points scored

and 57 conceded. Kelly College came into the season on the back of an unbeaten run the previous year but scored only nine out of ten this time. Led forcefully by Barny Durrant, the one blot on their copybook came at

Truro. Eltham College enjoyed a good run of after winning the National Westminster Bank sevens in late September and from that point put together a run of 12 consecutive wins. Among the victims were the Croydon schools Trinity and John Fisher. Success also earned Richard Porter a place

in the Kent U-19 side.

SQUASH

Jansher rises to challenge from Dittmar

Doha: Jansher Khan overcame a brave performance by Chris Dimmar to win the Qatar International here yesterday and round off his best year on the international circuit. The Pakistani came from 10-8 down in the final game to beat the Australian 15-9, 14-15, 12-15, 15-6, 15-

11 in 98 minutes. He adds the title, and the £135,000 that goes with it the second richest on the circuit - to the world and British opens, and the world No. 1 ranking. "I thought at one stage Jansher would lose," his

and coach, brother Mohibullah Khan, said. "He was going for drop shots and he should have played to the back more and played longer Jansher fought back through his superior firmess and mobility. He spent much

the match containing

Dittmar's creative attempts to

take him up the court with

drops and reverse angles.

☐ The Times is publishing tomorrow, with full details of the eight Boxing day meetings, including the King George VI

Chase at Kempton. Francois Doumen, trainer of the warm

favourite, The Fellow, will feature in the Boxing day edition.

Girardelli takes overall World Cup lead

Bad Kleinkirchheim, Austria: Marc Girardelli returned to the top of the overall World Cup standings yesterday, but his achievement was overshadowed on an emotional day for skiers from the host

While Girardelli, who was born in Austria and skis for Luxembourg, finished thirteenth in the last event before the new year to leapfrog ahead of Alberto Tomba, of Italy, in the overall points table, Armin Assinger, whose career was almost ended by a bad skiing accident in Switzerland in 1989, won the race after hurtling down the icy Strohsack piste from 33rd start position in 1min 45.60sec. It was the first win of his career and he dedicated

died in a skiing accident at the weekend. The race was difficult for all of us because of Peter's accident," Assinger said, "but we decided to take all the risks to try to do it for him." The veteran, Leonhard Stock, made it an Austrian one-two in the first race held in the

it to the memory of his team-

mate Peter Wirnsberger, who

country this season with a time of 1min 45.81 sec. The Norwegian Olympic champion. Kjetil-Andre Aamodt, finished third in 1 min 46.22sec. The victory heralded a remarkable recovery for

Assinger, 28, who was born near the course. His previous best result in the World Cup was a second place in a downhill race in Val Gardena. Italy, in 1988, the year before he fell in training at Wengen, Switzerland, ripping the ligaments in both his knees.

He did not qualify for the Albertville Olympic Games after another crash and said he would have joined Stock in retirement had he failed to get a good result this season. He was fourteenth in the Val d'Isère super-giant slalom on December 5 and thirteenth in a downhill in Val Gardena this month.

Stock, the 1980 Olympic downhill champion, had won only two races on the circuit before this season, but had seemed set to double his tally



Winning smile: Assinger celebrates his victory

in a month. Before his run, the in-form Norwegians had looked like grabbing the glory with Aamodt and Jan Einar Thorsen, the Olympic bronze medal-winner and winner in Val d'Isère, occupying the top two places.

"Maybe the conditions improved for the late starters, even if the visibility was not so good," Aamodt said. "The course was really icy and bumpy when I skied down." Girardelli, whose overall

lead is assured until the new year, said the edges of his skis had been too sharp and he lacked acceleration coming out of the curves, but he was happy to be ahead again.

happy to be ahead again.

RESULT: 1, A Assinger (Austra), 1min 45.80sec; 2, L Sack (Austria), 145.81:3, K-A Associative, 1903; 1, 146.21:4, J. E Thorsen, Non), 146.22:4, J. E Thorsen, Non), 146.25:5, M Hangi (Switz), 1:46.32:6, A Senigagilesi (N), 1:46.57, 7, P Jeantyn (Swe), 1:46.74:8, M Wasmisier (Ger), 1:46.80:8, C Pie (Fi), 1:46.82:10, L Alphand Fr), 1:46.80 (Non), 1:46.82:10, L Alphand Fr), 1:46.80 (Non), 1:46.82:10, L Alphand Fr), 1:46.80 (Non), 1:46.82:10, L Alphand (Fir), 1:46.80 (Non), 1:46.82:10, L Alphand (Silver), 1:46.80:10, 1:

SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

Barriers are coming down

By Alix Ramsay

JUST as the International Olympic Committee (IOC) is considering the inclusion of some events for people with physical disabilities in Atlanta. so the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) is on the verge of opening its doors to athletes with learning difficulties by allowing them to compete at the 1996

This decision, however, is unpopular with many of the physically disabled athletes. Most are unwilling to criticise the IPC openly but some feel that the move is another decision taken by able-bodied administrators who have not considered the views of the disabled athletes.

Paralympics.

The IPC executive committee has agreed, in principle, to include a limited number of events for the mentally handicapped in athletics and swimming. The numbers of athletes involved has yet to be decided and the proposal must be ratified by the technical committee in February.

Many of the barriers to the

testing have been overcome all athletes from every disability group will be sub-ject to random testing — but the eligibility of athletes still remains a problem. We really need to tidy this

area up," Roger Biggs, the director of the United Kingdom sports association for people with mental handicaps (UKSA), said. "Under the old provision any one in receipt of day care was eligible to compete. But we need to formulate a generally accepted test. so that if one team questions the eligibility of another competitor we can prove his or her right to be there." As yet no such test has been devised

and approved. After the variety of standards displayed at the Madrid event for athletes with learning difficulties, another of IPC's criteria for inclusion is the insistence on elite level

"In the UK we're committed to elite sport," Biggs said. We don't know what the IPC technical committee is going

handicapped, such as drug to set as the minimum standard but they ought to look at the fact that we are still a

developing sport."
It is this point that worries Paralympic athletes. Having won four gold medals in Barcelona, Tanni Grey is now working towards Atlanta, She is apprehensive about the inclusion of the mentally handicapped.

"It's difficult as a disabled sports person," she said. "I would like to be accepted by the able-bodied and it is hard to turn around to another disability group and say I don't want to accept them. We have to get away from the idea that we compete at some sort of weekend party."

Biggs feels that many of the athletes' fears have grown out of ignorance but Grey is unconvinced. "A lot of me asks 'why can't the mentally handicapped fit in? But just because there is a disability group that wants to go to the Paralympics, it doesn't mean they have a right to go. They have to prove they are good

FOOTBALL

Coventry may issue claim after police statement

By Our Sports Staff

COVENTRY City may claim compensation from local police after last Saturday's thrilling 5-1 defeat of Liver-pool at Highfield Road. The club is taking legal advice because it believes it lost £10,000 to £15,000 in gate receipts at the game as a result

Vest Midlands Police issued a press statement warning supporters who did not have tickets to stay away from the ground, but the match had not been designated as allticket and supporters could pay at the turnstiles. There ere 19,779 on hand to see Coventry's victory, but the club feels there would have been another 1,500 in the stadium but for the police

Graham Hover, the Coventry secretary, said yesterday: We were surprised to hear of the announcement that people should not come without a ticket. We are taking advice from our solicitor and we may be making a claim for compensation."

A spokesman for West Midlands Police said: 'It was not our intention to mislead anyone and we can only apologise if that was the case."

manager, Bobby Gould, for the police involvement in a decision to refuse him entry to West Bromwich Albion's ground to commentate on match against Wycombe Wanderers for BSkyB television last week. Gould endured a stormy relationship wih supporters when he was and it was feared his appear ance at the ground could lead to public disorder.

Roche wrote to Gould: "You or any other manager may attend any match at any time within this police area. May I apologise for any embarrass-ment or inconvenience caused by the police involvement in this incident."

Middlesbrough want to sign the Bournemouth midfield player. Brian McGorry. on the recommendation of his former school friend, Craig Hignett. Middlebrough bought Hignett from Crewe Alexandra for £500,000 two months ago. McGorry is Bournemouth's

eading scorer this season and is also being watched by Sheffield United and Wimbledon. Bournemouth snapped him up from non-league Weymouth, where he was working It is the second recent apolo-gy from West Midlands Police £15,000. Middlesbrough to Coventry City. The assistant chief constable, Clive Roche, wrote to say sorry to the club's Saturday.

watched the powerful McGorry against Reading on Saturday.

Southampton pair will miss cup-tie

THE Southampton forward, lain Dowie, and midfield player, Terry Hurlock, will miss the FA Cup third-round tie at Nottingham Forest on January 3 after having sus-pensions confirmed. They were booked at Everton on Saturday and exceeded 20 disciplinary points, so being banned automatically for two matches. They will also miss outnampton's Fremie League match against Leeds

Bixmingham City yesterday completed the loan signing of the Southampton forward, David Speedie, for a third month, but their manager, Terry Cooper, has delayed his clear-out of his first-team squad until the new year. Cooper had intended to circulate a list of players available for transfer this week but has put the plan on hold. Bolton Wanderers yester-

Celebrations turn sour

Buenos Aires: One child was killed, about a hundred people ivere wounded and 139 arrested in football-related violence at the end of Argentina's first division championship.

- A one-year-old boy died after being hit by a stray bullet as supporters in a Buenos Aires suburb fired guns to celebrate the first title success for Boca Juniors for 11 years. Pifteen policemen were

ALISTRIA

among those injured as hooligans clashed with police at grounds where Boca Juniors and the runners-up, River

Plate, were playing. River Plate's match started late because police had to use tear gas to clear the pitch. The referee, Juan Bava, abandoned the game before the start of the second half when fighting broke out in the

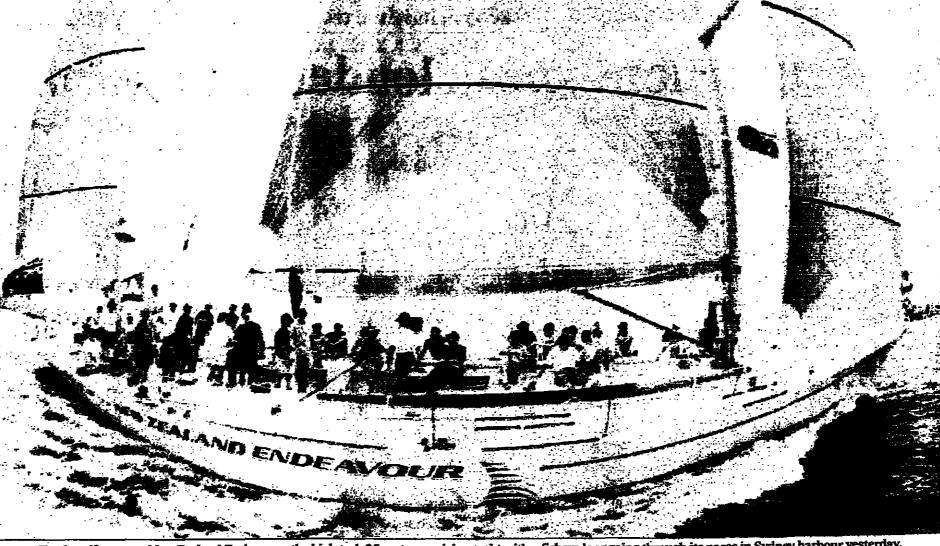
day signed David Lee, the winger, for £200,000 from Southampton, who will receive additional payments of up to £75,000 depending on the number of games he plays. Two young Sheffield Wednesday players have been re-

Mansfield, of the Barclays

leased on loan. Michael Williams, a forward, has gone to Halifax for a month, and Julian Watts, a centre back, bridge United yesterday signed the experienced Watford forward, Steve Butler, 30.

League second division, were yesterday put up for sale. The parent company. Abacus Municipal Holdings, is ready to relinquish its involvement as soon as a buyer can be found. Geoffrey Hall, managing di-rector of both Abacus and the club, said that the club's immediate future was not in

The dilemma between play ers wanting to improve their incomes by playing all year and clubs protecting their assets is set to intensify. Eng-land is seen as a fertile



Ketch us if you can: New Zealand Endeavour, the high-tech 25-metre maxi, is caught with a fisheye lens going through its paces in Sydney harbour yesterday. The ketch is strongly fancied to win the annual 630 nantical mile Sydney to Hobart race, this year involving 115 yachts, which begins on Boxing day

Intriguing contest for minor honours

AS THE crews on Commercial Union and Nuclear Electric closed to within 2,000 miles of Hobart yesterday in their nail-biting duel to win the second stage of the British Steel Challenge yacht race around the world, a battle of equal intensity was developing for fourth place.

Remarkably, after racing more than 6,500 miles around Cape Horn and across the Southern Ocean, 93 miles is all that divides fourth-placed Coopers & Lybrand, skippered by Vivien Cherry, and Group 4 Securitas, in seventh place.

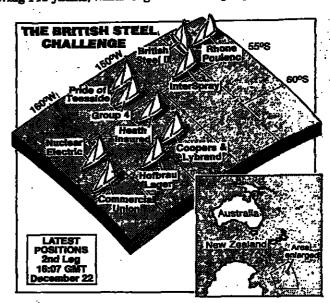
Between them, Pride of Teesside and Heath Insured are so close that they are swapping places almost daily. The BT computer monitor-

ing the performance of the yachts predicted yesterday that there will be less than an hour dividing Richard Merri-weather's Commercial Union from Nuclear Electric when they reach Tasmania early in January. Coopers & Lybrand, Pride of Teesside, Heath In-sured and Group 4 Securius are also expected to arrive within short order, two days

The crew on the dismasted British Steel II continues to make slow progress towards New Zealand. With no sign on the immediate horizon of a passing ship bringing them the fuel required to cover the remaining 2,000 miles, Peter Phillips and his crew on Rhone-Poulenc have agreed to pass over all they can spare when the yachts cross wakes later today

Unlike British Steel II, the leaders have been making excellent progress during the past few days, averaging more than eight knots. However,

system will reduce the Roaring Forties and Screaming Sixties to little more than a whimper for the remainder of the week. Race organisers expect the first vacht to reach Hobart around January 6.



RUGBY LEAGUE

Devereux move is blocked

By Christopher Invine

CLUBS are resisting a new assault on English players from Australia. John Devereux, the former Wales rugby second player to have his hopes of joining Manly-Warringah next summer foiled, following the clampdown on Garry Schofield by

Manly have been forced to drop their interest in Schofield, who is taking legal advice about compensation from Leeds, and have now withdrawn a short-term con-tract offered to Devereix because his club, Widnes. objected to inadequate insurance guarantees, of £50,000. against injury.

Devereux, 26, said yesterday: "Widnes didn't really want me to go. I'm very disappointed because I've been out of work since returning from the Great Britain tour last summer and this contract meant security for my family."

recruiting ground for the four new clubs that will join Australia's Winfield Cup competition

offer, more players may be encouraged to look at a permanent escape from an even more overcrowded domestic fixture list next sea-

Denis Betts, a critic of the English system, and Phil Clarke, who are two of Great Britain's brightest playing prospects, are already being linked with the move next year



Devereux: thwarted

by John Monie, their coach at igan, to Auckland.

In the growing row over Hunslet's refusal to play their pitch was passed fit by the referee. Barley have appealed for the award of two points by the Rugby Football League (RFL), which will consider the

case next month. A flurry of late postponements last weekend has prompted a new instruction to referees, by the RFL, to be on hand for inspection of grounds 212 hours before kickoff when conditions are bad.

The cold weather has caused the postponement of the Regal Trophy third-round tie between Bradford North-ern and Widnes tonight. It has been rescheduled for next Tuesday and, if play is not possible at Odsal, it is likely to be switched to either Valley Parade or Headingley.

St Helens have rejected an offer from Wigan to switch their first division match on Sunday to Central Park if the Knowsley Road pitch is unfit. Wigan, whose ground has undersoil heating, wanted to avoid a postponement because of possible fixture congestion.

HOCKEY

India trip blocked by cricket clash

By Sidney Friskin

. auready postponed from January to February, suffered another setback yesterday when it was postponed indefinitely because of a clash with the England cricket tour of India. But Peter Sharpe, the chair-

man of international teams committee of the Hockey Association, said yesterday: "Clearly it puts our participation in some doubt. But we would obviously want to consider it when we know what the new dates are particularly if they are of help in our build up to the junior world cup in Spain next September."

Ragunandhan Prasad, the president of the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) said in New Delhi that the event would have clashed with the third cricket Test between India and England in Bombay. "Spectators and television viewers would have been faced with a difficult choice." he

The Indian federation is seeking new dates from the international federation and

THE Indira Gandhi tourna- still hope that the event will be withdrewfor security reasons, after the religious disturbances in India, reducing the field to five teams, but Japan has been invited to join India, England, Holland, Spain and

Russia in the competition. The news of the indefinite postponement will doubtless be a relief to the organisers of the Pizza Express national league, which is due to resume on January 24 after the winter

Most of the places for the final stages of the national indoor club championship at Crystal Palace, London, on January 22 have now been filled. St Albans, the holders, qualify automatically. The two places from the South have been won by Blackheath and

Old Loughtonians qualified last Sunday from the East and Firebrands earned their place earlier from the West. The two teams from the Midlands will be decided on January 3 at Cocks Moors Wood leisure centre, Birmingham.

BADMINTON

Barcelona champion ranked one

SUSI Susanti, the Olympic romen's chambion, to end-of-year rankings issued by the International Badminton Federation. She also won the Japanese, German and Thailand open championships, but Allan Budi Kusuma, Indonesia's other gold medal winner in Barcelona, was only third.

1 1 2 2

: : #1.5

Joko Suprianto, of Indonesia, topped the men's rankings ahead of Rashid Sidek, of Malaysia.

Two changes to the ranking system have caused the surprises. Rankings are now based on results from eight events and 15 matches over only 12 months and withdrawals now count as losses. The latter change may have been introduced to deter players from scratching from a tournament to avoid a defeat.

RANKINGS: Men: 1, J Suprianto (Indo); 2, Rentid Sidek (Malaysia); 3, A B Kusuma (Indo); 4, A Wiraneta (Indo); 5, H Susento (Indo); 8, T Suer-Laurideen (Den); 7, Wu Warkel (China); 8, A Haryanto (Indo); 9, Liu Jun (China); 10, B Suprianto (Indo); 9, Liu Jun (China); 10, B Suprianto (Indo); 9, Liu Jun (S Korj; 3, Tang Juhong (China), 4, S Kusumawarcheni (Indo); 5, Lim Xiaoging (Swe); 8, Ye Zhaoying (China); 7, Lee Heung-soon (S Korj; 8, C Magnusson (Swe); 9, S Jaroensiri (Indo); 10, Y Kartika (Indo); 9, S Jaroensiri (Indo); 10, Y Kartika (Indo);

SNOW REPORTS Puns to Weather Tamp snow resort °C fall

FRANCE les Menuires...... 40 150 good open fair 2C 12/12 (Cross country trails open. 52 lifts / 57 pistes open) 25 170 tals open sunny -2C 12/12 (Best skiling on upper slopes, 15 lifts open)

SWITZERLAND Crens Montana... 30 350 good open suriny 3C 12/12 (Good skiling on hard base, 33/40 lifts open)

Lenzerheide....... 50 150 good open sunny 0C 10/12 (Good elding throughout resort. All lifts / pistes open) Les Diablerets.... 20 370 good open sunny -5C 11/12 (Good skiing at all levels, best on glacier) ...: 50 190 good open sunny (Dry snow on all slopes, 22 lifts / 30 pistes)

Courmayeur 120 250 good open sunny -3C 7/12 (Good skiing. 21 litis / all 25 pistes open)55 250 teir open cloudy (Lower stopes hard. 25 lifts / 75 pistes open) M of Campiglio... 60 120 good open sunny (Best skiling in mountains. 22 life and all pistes open)

20 110 good open cloudy 1C 18/12 (Dry snow on groomed pistes, 8 lifts / 17 pistes open) Information supplied by Ski Hotline

Russian fails a drug test

Galina Ikonnikova is the latest Russian athlete to become involved in a drug controver-sy. The Swiss Athletics Federation announced yesterday that traces of the anabolic agent, methyltestosteron, had been found in samples she gave after the Morat-Fribourg road race on October 4.

Three Russians, including the world champion hurdlers, Ludmila Naroshilenko and Margarita Ponymaryeva. were told to leave Sweden last week after steroids were found in a bag belonging to their

Quick victory

Boxing: Julio César Vásquez. of Argentina, won the vacant World Boxing Association (WBA) light-middleweight title in Buenos Aires when he knocked out his Japanese opponent, Hitoshi Kamiyam, in the first round.

Ranatunga stays

Cricket: Arjuna Ranatunga has been retained as Sri Lanka's captain for the visit of England in March.

FA CUP: Second-round replay: Postponed: Bury v Wigan.

TENNENTS SCOTTISH: CUP: Second
round: Postponed: Sterhousemulir v Forter. Second-round replay: Postponed:
Essi Sering v Vale of Lettnen.

AUTOGLASS TROPHY: First round: Pdetponed: Bourhemouth v Reading.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES CUPPretiminary round: Postponed: Cornsh's

Cusy v Newdown.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION:
First division: Lutton 1, Swindon 2: Ipswich 1, West Harn 0. Second division: Carolif 3,
Exeter 1.

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Postponed: Leicestor City v Nottingham Forest;
Notis County v Stoke; Rotherhern v Aston
Villa.

PREMIER LEAGUE: Norwich 0, loswich 2. Autogises Trophy; First round: Bernet 4, Colchester 2. Portins League: First div-sion: Postporied: Wolverhempson Wender-ers v. Bernsley. Vaudraff PA Trophy; Third qualifying round replay. Postporied: VS Hugby v Sutton Coldfield Town. Schools matches: English Addids Under-19 Tro-phy; Bedlordshire 0, Northans 8; Middle-sex 1, Essex 2; Sussex 5, Surrey 3. Mars Lancashire Under-19 Cup: First Bleck-pool College 4, Habergham 1, Weigh Schools Sheld: Prondide 4, Cardiff 2.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL): Delles Cowboys 41, Atlanta Faicons 17. SMIMMING

SPEEDO SPRITISH GRAND PROX
RANKINGS (coders efter two rounds);
Men: Sprint freestyle: M Foster (Bernet
Coptratil and P Howe (City of Birmingham),
Splan Distance freestyle: Howe, 61,
Beckstroke: G Robins (Portsmouth
Northseel), 86. Breestsbroke: M Williams
(Barnet Coptratil), 58. Butterfly: Foster, 68,
Mediey: Robins, 68. Women: Sprint
freestyle: D Armitage (Borough of Kirklees),
54. Distance treestyle: A Pandrich (Beckenham), 61. Beckstroke: H Statter (Wardors
of Warrington), 64. Breestsbroke: K Rate
(Mesovell), 34. Butterfly: S Dykes (City of
Briston), 35. Mediego; Statter, 68.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Histord Whelens 5, Montreal Canadiens 2: New York Pangars 3, New Jersey Devils 0; Washing-ton Capitals 4, Ottawa Sanators 3: Pitta-burgh Penguina 7, Ouebec Nordiques 4; Winnipag Jets 5, San Jose Sharirs 4; Calgary Flames 3, Edmonton Oliens 2. CRICKET HEINEKEN LEAGUE

BUENOS AIRES: World Boxing Associ-ation light-middleweight champlanehip: Julio Cesar Vesquez (Arg) iso Hitoshi Kamiyam (Japan), 1st md. Relationough 15 7 0 8103108 14 (othighem 16 6 2 8116126 14 Juriam 15 6 1 8 95 97 13 Registrom 18 4 3 11125177 11 SQUASH **VOLLEYBALL**

BASKETBALL NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Philo-delphia 76ers 113, Indiana Pacers 101; Cleveland Cavallers 111, Washington Bul-lets 107 (OT); Chicago Bulls 85, Mierril Heat **RUGBY UNION**

CLUB MATCH: Cancelled: Moseley Worcester and Hereford.

DOMA: Ceter International tournament: Finat: Jansher Khan (Pak) bt C Ditmer (Aus), 15-9, 14-15, 12-15, 15-6, 15-11.

COVENTRY: LTA Reebok tour event:
Ouarter-finals: Men: C Williamon (Herita) bt
D Sanders (Sonersed), 44, 6-2, 6-4, 1,
Hunter (Surrey) bt D Mirk (Lincs), 6-4, 2-5, 63: P Hand (Berts) bt D Instand (Loiss), 7-4,
6-2; A Foster (Sastis) bt N Wood (Meddo) bt T
Cruson (Derbys), 6-2, 6-3; A Simplich
(Leics) bt B.A. Schiell (Dorsen), 6-3, 4-5, 6-2
A van Buren (Holl) bt V Lake (Devon), 7-4,
6-4; 9 Cooregel (Holl) bt A Smitin (Statis), 63, 6-2.

BOXING

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND LEAGUE

Men's first division PW L F

OUEEN'S CLUB, London: Public schools championships. Pirat: Foster Cup (senior): H Foster (Harrow) bt G Ress (Citical), 19-6, 15-6, 15-6, 15-9, Renny Cup (second string): P Handinges (Malvern) bt H Dingle

Whitlock's support may

not save championship THE Squash Rackets Associ-

SQUASH

ation (SRA) has abandoned its 1993 England selection criterion for the national championship in Manchester next month but, despite support from Philip Whitlock, the England captain, and Peter Marshall, the British champion, hopes that the move would end a boycott by the top 20 men were still doubtful last night (Colin McQuillan Writes).

Whitlock appeared to have rescued the newly shaped English men's championship vesterday when he gained unanimous approval from fellow professionals about a suggestion to commit to any further men's national events offering agreed minimum prize funds while deciding about entry this year without prejudice to national selection. Marshall was among players who contacted the SRA to agree that the position negotiated by Whitlock offered a platform to promote a signifi-

cant event in future. According to Chris Gotla, the SRA chief executive, other players want to compete in Manchester but are unwilling to break the boycon organised by the top 20 players last week. Gotla suggested that pres-

sure is being applied to the players from an unknown source, and said the men's championship will not take place unless agreement is reached by January 4. "Philip and I agreed that this is vital to the championship and the whole professional game in England," Gotla said last

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BBC1

6.00 Ceefex (39410) 6.30 BBC Breakfast News (40610878) 6.00 Cestex (39410) 0.30 DDC DIPERIDES NEWS (40010675)
9.05 Blood and Honey. Part three of Herod's Chinstmas (4302014) 9.20
The New Yogi Bear Show. Yogi trivites his father to visit (r)
(5004304) 9.30 Come Midnight Monday. Part three of the railway drama (r) (14965)

10.00 News, regional news and weather (3301052) 10.05 Playdays at the Roundabout Stop (s) (9917385) 10.30 Babar The Little Elephant. The regal elephant visits New York (r) (82878)

11.00 News (Ceelex). Regional news and weather (5218946)

11.05 Film: Kings of the Sun (1963). Yul Brynner and George Chakins

star in a lumbering adventure yarn set in Ancient Mexico. Directed by J. Lee Thompson (30681101)

by J. Lee Thompson (30881101)

12.50 Good Morning Advent Calendar, John Tovey's contradictory low-caloric gourmet guide to Christmas (65310491) 12.55 Regional news and weather (65319762)

1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. (Ceefax) Weather (85526)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (21750120)

1.50 Eldorado (f). (Ceefax) (s) (37007675)

2.20 Film: The New Mavertick (1978). Light-hearted western, based on the fittes TV senes, starring James Gamer as a cowardly gambler evading trouble. Directed by Hy Averback. (Ceefax) (4054859)

3.50 Dooby Duck's Euro Tour (s) (9419651) 3.55 Radio Roo. Dennis and Cive cause chaos at a holiday camp in the last of the series (f) (s) (5655859) 4.10 The New Yogi Bear Show. Carloon tun (f) (7817684) 4.20 Watt on Earth. Last of the science-fiction series (s) (2715897) 4.35 The Worst Day of My Life. Two girls find a crystal that gives them mind-reading powers. (Ceefax) (5510675)

5.00 Newsround (2209675) 5.10 Grange Hill. Children's drama serial (8852101)

8952101) 5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (542149). N Ireland: inside Uister 6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax)

Weather (694) 6.30 Regional News Magazines (946). Northern Ireland: Neighbours 7.00 Edorado (f). (Ceefax) (s) (8859)
7.30 Tomorrow's World Christmas Quiz, Annual quiz about puzzling

inventions. With guests Josie Lawrence, Wayne Dobson, Milke McShane, Ian McCaskill and the gladiator. Wolf. (Ceefax) (s) (830) 8.00 Waiting for God. Ageist cornedy starring Stephanie Cole and Graham Crowden. Diana's attitude to Christmas is entirely predictable, whilee Torn endeavours to enter into the spirit of the season by inviting a couple of down-end-outs to share the holiday with them at Bayview. (Ceetax) (s) (423588)

8.50 Points of View with Anne Robinson (s) (301120)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceetax) Regional news



Subconcious analysis: Lenny Henry, Bill Paterson (9.30pm)

9.30 Lenny Henry: In Dreams

 CHOICE: It may be Christmas but even so this is a strange offering. Anyone expering Lenny's Henry's gloriously uninhibited comedy, the rolling and the manic laugh, will be largely disappointed. Institut and he plays a man tormented by dreams and hightmares one of the latter than the former. There appears to be real e ... o some of the items, notably the opening "dream" in which Henry is hounded by a pack of intrusive pressinen and takes suitably drastic action. Other dreams are more traditional, such as being late for your own wedding or having your clothes stolen from a beach. Bill Paterson appears as Henry's shrink and Barry Norman appears as Barry Norman. The film claims that the most popular British dream is having tea with the Queen. It is good that the monarchy has some role left in the 1990s. (Ceetax) (s) (29679)

10.30 Film: Someone's Watching Me (1978). Nail-biting suspense thriller starring Lauren Hutton as a television director who moves into a luxury apartment and becomes aware that she is being observed. Directed by John Carpenter, (Ceefax) (55594472). N fretand: In Performance 11.10 Film: Someone's Watching Me 12.05am Robert Palmer — Riding High. The singer performs jazz and blues and a selection of his own songs in a concert recorded at the Albert Hall (s) (1594095) 12.55 Weather (5159927). Northern Ireland: 12.45 Robert Palmer 1.35-1.40 A Hard Road

BBC2

8.00 Breakfast News (5830588) 8.15 Film: The Falcon's Alibi (1946, b/w) starring Tom Cornway as the smooth super sleuth on the trail of a killer. Directed by Ray McCarey (254656)
9.15 Film: This Happy Breed (1944) starring Robert Newton, Celia Johnson and John Mills. Noel Coward's nostagic chronicle of a worldon delayer forthis to earth.

working-class family in south London between the wars. Directed by David Lean (86626743)

11.00 Greenolaws for children (r) (2934507) 11.15 Kall the Lion. John and Simon King follow the lions of Musiera

11.15 Kall the Lion. Jonil and Sanuti Aria, Jones and Fugues numbers.

Marsh in Kenya (f). (Ceefax). (263304)

12.15 Nikolaeva Playe Shostakovich. Preludes and Fugues numbers.

ten to 13 (s). (752588) 12.45 Balkoon. Animation (f). (s). (43329588)

1.00 Salling. The Black Bottle Ultra 30 Grand Prix series (11878)

2.00 News and weather. (39885149). 2.05 Dance With Me, Henry.

Memories of warrine jitterbug fever, live dance bands and the rock

Memories of wartime jitterbug fever, live dance bands and the rock in roll rebellion (r) (46763859)

2.35 Country File with John Craven (r) (9444507)

3.00 News. (Ceetas) Weather (7396946) 3.05 Christmas in the City. Carols from the City Hall in Bellast (r) (9746101)

3.50 News. (Ceetas) Weather, regional news and weather (6556859)

4.00 Animation New (r) (2793675)

4.15 Film: The Thirty-Mine Steps (1935, b/w).

CHOICE: Alfred Hitchcock's last, funny and wonderfully inventive chase thriller is nominally based on the John Buchan novel, but, as often with Hitch, the literary source is only a starting point. The boldest departure was the introduction of a lemale lead (Madeleine Carroll) to whom the hero Richard Harmay (Robert Donat) could be handcurfied during their flight across the Scottish moors. Donat's emotionally charged visit to the puritantical crofter (John Laurie) and his wife (Peggy Ashcroft) is another invention and so is Mr Memory, his write (Paggy Ashcroft) is another invention and so is Mr Memory, the music-hall artist who holds the secret of the spy ring. Logically the story is full of holes but Hitchcock maintains such a cracking pace that there is hardly time to notice. Few British films of the period hold up so well (1887897)

5.40 Life with Eliza. Continuing the Edwardian comedy sterring John

Sessions. (Ceetax) (788014)

5.50 Star Trek. Cult science-fiction series starring William Shatner and

Leonard Nimoy (r). (Ceefax) (792014) 6.40 DEF II: Rough Guide to the World's Islands. In the lest programme of the series, Magenta De Vine and Rajan Detar visit Crete, Rhodes and Karpathos (s) (748588)



A tenor sings: Placido Domingo in festive spirit (7.30pm)

7.30 Christmas in Vienna. José Carreras, Diana Ross and Placido Domingo in concert live from the Vienna City Hall (s) (48101) 8.30 Open Space: Kurdistan — the Promised Country. Exile Hoshmand Othman visits the Kurdish safe haven in Iraq to find out

how his countrymen are faring after years of persecution at the hands Saddam Hussein. (Ceelax) (4656)

9.00 Film: Dreamchild (1985), Coral Browne and lan Holm star in this intriguing fantasy by Dennis Potter in which Alics Hargreaves, the inspiration for Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland, becomes

increasingly haunted by her childhood memories. Directed by Gavin Millar. (Ceetax) (2304)

10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow (628520)

11.15 Film: Le Cop II (1989). Passable sequel to the hit French thriller, starring Philippe Noiret and Thierry Lhermitte. When François admits to comption he and René are suspended, but their replacements are more corrupt than they have ever been Directed. replacements are more corrupt than they have ever been. Directed by Claude Zidi (276385) 1.00 Weather (9386328)

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ITV LONDON

6.00 TV-am (5268439) 9.25 The New Adventures of He-Man. Macho animation (6453694) 9.50 Thames news (9927762)

9.55 Film: The Return of Superbug (1978) starring Rud Rittberg and Kathrin Oginski. Comic caper. An almost human Volkswagen and a small robot take on the villains who are threatening to overrun the

small robot take on the villains who are threatehing to overrun the once island paradise of Lanzarote (78454946)

11.40 Stuntmasters. Death-delying feats (4655743)

12.30 Lunchtime News with Demot Murraghan. (Oracle) Weather (1408014) 12.50 Thames News (11114014)

1.00 Home and Away. (Oracle) (70634)

1.30 Film: The Shaggy DA (1976). Disney family comedy starring Dean in Junear was a larger whose election changes are threatened by the

Jones as a lawyer whose election chances are threatened by the discovery of an ancient ring which changes him into a sheepdag whenever the Latin inscription is read out. Directed by Robert Stevenson (25797052) 3.10 ITN News headlines (7307052) 3.15 Thames News (7306323)

3.20 Families, Soap linking the north of England with Australia 3.50 Film: A Hobo's Christmas (1897) starring Charlie Carson as a salesman who deserts his family to live as a tramp, 20 years on he

decides to pay his son and grandchildren a surprise visit. Directed by Will Mackenzie (492304)

5.40 Early Evening News (Oracle) Weather (446526)
6.00 Home and Awey (r). (Oracle) (762)
6.30 Thames News (994)
7.00 This is Your Life. Michael Aspel is standing by to surprise another

unsuspecting worthy (s) (6255)

7.30 Coronation Street. (Oracle) (526)

8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight. The entertainer is joined by Paul Anka, Sharon Gless, Brian Conley, Frank Bruno, the Simmons Brothers and Michael Bolton (s) (4743)

9.00 Film: Buster (1988). Rock star Phil Collins plays the title role in a

romanticised account of the career of the great train roboter, Buster romanticised account of the career of the great train roboter, Buster Bounds. Small-time crook Buster moves into the big time when he joins a gang planning to rob a mail train carrying a huge amount of used benknotes. With Julie Walters as Buster's wife. Directed by David Green. (Oracle) (s) (continues after the news) (4507) 10.00 News at Ten with John Suchet. (Oracle) Weather (400507) 10.20

Thernes News (730385) 10.30 Film: Buster. The conclusion (173588) 11.20 Film: The Bride (1985) starring Sting as Dr Frankenstein who creates the perfect woman for his original monster. Directed by

Franc Roddam (s) (77849168) 1.30am Film: The Bleck Windmill (1974), Michael Caine stars as a spy who discovers that his son has been kidnapped in a disappointingly conventional thriller from the Dirty Harry director Don Slegel

3.25 Film: Carty's Web (1987). Pilot for an abortive TV series starring Daphne Ashbrook as an ambitious clerk in the American Justice department who uncovers a web of deceit and blackmail. Directed

by Kevin Inch (203618) 5.15 America's Top Ten (s) (3838569) 5.55 ITN Morning News (5591989). Ends at 6.00



Small-time crook to great train robber: Phil Collins (9.00pm)

CHANNEL 4

a de la composição de la composição de la composição de la composição de la composição de la composição de la Composição de la composição de la composição de la composição de la composição de la composição de la composiç

6.00 Cartoons (93120) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (75149) 9.00 You Bet Your Life. Game show hosted by Bill Cosby (s) (6432101)
9.25 Laurel and Handy. Cartoon version (5005033) 9.30 Sesame

Street, Early learning series (44859)
 10.30 Film: Chaplin Cavalcade (1938, b/w). Four shorts from Chaplin's period at Mutual — One AM, The Pawnshop, The Floorwalker and The Flink (47897)

12.00 The Lorax. A Dr Seuss animation about the disastrous effects of man's greed on the environment (99168)

man's greed on the environment (39100)

12.30 Femous People, Famous Pieces. Quiz game introduced by William G. Stewart (92531)

1.00 Anne of Green Gables — The Sequel. Anne (Megan Follows) is now an adult and determined to be a writer, but failure to find a publisher depresses her and she leaves her boyfriend (Jonathan Crombie) to become a teacher far from Prince Edward Island (r)

(61013656) 3.20 Morris's Disappearing Bag. Animation about a young rabbit

Monts's Disappearing Bag. Animation about a young rabbit rejected by his older brother and sister at Christmas (7385830)
 Transformations. The last of four programmes examining our relationships with the world around us. The subject is death. Among those taking part are scientist David Lorimer, the Dalai Lama, Mother Teresa and hospice founder Dame Cicely Saunders (57323)
 Rarg. Animated adventures namated by Nigel Hawthorn (1) (439)
 OF Film: A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court (1989) staming Keshia Kright Pulliam. Moderate television version of Mark Twain's tale of a ten-year-old girl who is knocked out by a fall from a horse and transported back to the court of King Arthur in Camelot. With Emma Samms and Jean Marsh. Directed by Mel Damski (96352830)

(96352630) 6.45 Air Pirates of the Outback. Puppet animation from Australia (187897)

7.00 Channel 4 News, (Teletext) Weather (159830)
7.50 Comment. Godfrey Meynell argues for seasonal sympathy for the Royal Family (373052)

8.00 Brookside. Topical drama serial set in a suburban Merseyside close. (Teletext) (s) (3197)
8.30 The Feast of Christmas. In the last of the series Paul Lawy enjoys Twelfth Night wassalling in Somerset and samples Claudia Roden's Moroccan Christmas snake. (Teletext) (2052)



Stand and deliver: deadpan comedian Jack Dee (9.00pm)

9.00 The Jack Dee Show.

 CHOICE: A seasonal special features the rising young comedian in stand-up routines from London's Bohemia Club, with guest spots from Torn Jones and a gory magician from the United States who not only threatens to saw his own arm in half but proceeds to do it. Viewers of a sensitive disposition are warned. But this is Jack Dee's night. He is a promising writer-performer who has won a cult following with his wry humour and deadpan style. Although he does a passable imitation of John Major, and slips in the odd Fergle loke, much of his material is drawn from the frustrations of everyday life, such as standing in bank queues or breaking down on the motorway. In this respect he is reminiscent of Jasper Carrott, except that he does without a stool. But it is unlikely that Dee or his fans

would welcome the comparison (2149)
10.00 Palles 2. Spoof sosp (s) (419120)
10.25 The Golden Girls. Blanche and Sophle claim they have

 10.25 The Golden Girls. Blanche and Sophie Claim they have experienced close encounters of the spiritual kind — but nobody will believe them. Starring Bea Arthur, Rue McClanghan, Betty White and Estelle Getty (Teletext) (s) (434439)
 10.55 Film: Police (1984). The Gérard Depardieu season concludes with this thriller about an uncompromising policeman who, while investigating a drugs operation, talls for the girlfriend of one of the suspects. Directed by Maurice Pialat. In French with English subtitles (24512897) subtitles (24512897) meford 123. Comedy series set in Roman Britain (r) (s)

(3921502)

1.35 Pallas 2. Shown at 10.00pm (9365705) 2.00 The Twilight Zone: Ninety Years without Slumbering (b/w). A tale of the supernatural starting Ed Wynn (1540298). Ends at 2-25

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

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Barcelon.

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As London sucept: 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (589149) BORDER As London except: 8.00 Looksround (762) 8.30-7.00 Home and Away (934) 3.25 Film: My Mother's Secret Life (104908) 5.10-5.40 CinemAtractions (4315811) CENTRAL

As London except: 3.50-5.40 Film: Savan-nah Smies (493304) 6.25-7.00 Central Noves (599149) 3.30-5.15 Film: One Million Years RC (147989)

GRANADA As London except: 3.20 Fkm: A Hobo's Christmes (2:680859) 5.10-5.40 Home and Ascay (2:400110) 6.00 Farmies (782) 6.30-7.00 Granada Tonight (994) 3.25 Film. My Mother's Societ Life (104908) 5.10-5.40 ChemAtractions (6218076)

HTV WEST As London except: 9.25-9.50 Children's Itland (6453694) 8.90 HTV News (762) 8.30-

As HTV West except: 6.00-6.30 Wales at

HTV WALES

SCOTTISH

As London except: 9.55-11.40 Film. Today (762) 6.30-7.00 Dean Fhein El (994)

TYNE TEES

ULSTER

Starta: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (75148) 9.00

Starta: 7.00 The Big Breeldest (75148) 9.00 You Bet Your Life (6422107) 9.25 Laurel and Hardy (5005033) 9.30 Sesame Street (44859) 10.30 Fibr: Cherje Chepin Cavel-cade. Cne AM, The Rink, The Pawishtop and The Roowagiar (47897) 12.00 The Lorax (98168) 12.30 Siot Meltrini (32531) 1.00 Euroeka's Castle (78236) 1.30 Filters To One (55502) 2.00 Christmas Tree Men (3781) 2.30 Fibri. Anne of Green Gables (52132385) 4.20 The Magic Roundabout (8613491) 4.25 Siot 23 (3876252) 5.00 Fipper (4033) 6.30 Brookside (491) 6.00 News (744949) 8.10 Henro (328538) 7.00 Pobol Y Christ (4997) 7.30 Dyma Sobin (188) 8.00 Glain Hafren (3197) 8.30 News (877586) 8.55 Y Tangnefedowr — Waldo Williams (187043) 9.45 Fibri: Fools of Fortune (171439) 11.45 The Jack Dee Show (703507) 12.45 The Best of the Worst (7762521) 1.10 Close

Firm: The Kid from Brooklyn (Denny Kaye, Vera-Ellen, Virginia Mayo) (1946965) 6.00 The Angelus (8257965) 6.01 So-One (95/2410) 8-30 Caroon Time (65/8217) 8.40 Who's the Boss? (670458) 7-10 Ster Trait: The Nard Generation (7749410) 8.00 Home Improvement (1948678) 8.30 Family Matters (1822385) 8.00 News (26/17120) 9.30 Kinsey (1247472) 10.30 A Harvest on Hallowed Ground (75/8656) 11.25 De-monds (5708436) 12.05 News (1047637) 12.10-12.15 A Preyer at Bedtime (1934809) **NETWORK 2**

NETWORK 2
Starts: 2.30 Bosco (68294743) 3.00 The
Den (98755673) 3.05 Ceptain Cook's
Travels (59824588) 3.15 Tressure in Melta
(59837052) 3.30 Ovide and the Garry
(59446491) 3.45 How Do You Do?'
(65941946) 4.00 Trny Toors (68258323)
4.30 Happy Brithdey (49946033) 4.45 The
Den's Per Ver (49941986) 5.00 Seebert
(11627526) 5.30 Woorl (68245859) 6.00 JoMedi (68253472) 6.30 Home and Away
(68258052) 7.00 Nusscht (48240675) 7.06
Cursa (47597491) 7.30 Coronasion Street
(68258236) 8.00 News (56974965) 8.03
Lotto Draw (56974965) 8.05 Blackboard
Jungle (10489743) 8.30 The Mursters Today
(11602217) 9.00 Mert Bertaving Bedly
(2239588) 9.30 News (58326149) 9.38
Northern Exposure (33146651) 10.30 News
(93048965) 10.50 Film. Moss Rose
(28391052) 12.20 Close

6.00em The DJ Kat Show (82975781) 8.40 Captain Cavernan (3008994) 8.55 Playabout (4014236) 9.10 Cartrons (7855014) 9.30 Pyramid Game (82149) 10.00 Sirke it Rich (83830) 10.30 The Bold and the Beautiful (22410) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (98014) 12.00 Falcon Crest (35472) 1.00pm E Street (82890) 1.30 Another World (3292978) 2.20 Sente Barbera (12040743) 2.45 Maude (380385) 3.15 New Leave to Beaver (3108296) 3.45 DJ Kat Show

SKY MOVIES+

SKY MOVIES GOLD

7,00em Starcheser: The Legend of Orln (1884): Animeted tentasy (15781)
3.00 The Fighting Kentuscidan (1949):
John Wayne helps Franch settlers (73217)
11,00 The Captive Heart (1946, b/w).
Drama about British POWs (91859)
1.00pm Oh Rossellindat (1955): A playboy
plays a practical joke (77033)
3.00 American Rabbit: Carbon about a
patriotic burny (96965)
5.00 Dick Tracoy (1990): Watren Beatly as
the comics strip orine-flottlar (27965)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

the contic-strip crime-fighter (27965) 7.00 Offwer's Stary (1976): Sequel to Love Stary starring Ryan O'Neal (92043) 9.00 Pick-a-Filick Back to the Putture 3 9.00 Pick-a-Ficic Back to the Friture 3 (1990) Michael J Fox goes back to the Old West; or Men at Work (1990): Charle Sheen and Eméo Estevez find a body (88588) 11.00 The Lonely Passion of Judith Heatre (1887): Spirater Maggie Smith meets Bob Hoslans (85236) 1,00em Phantasm II (1988): Surreal horror

1,00em Phantistm II (1988): Surfeel nortor about a plot to turn humans into midget creatures (744569) 2.35 Fair North (1986): Jessica Lange stars in a Minnesota farming drama (4896837) 5.00 The Stidn Gazen (1932, buy): Histocock drama about two families fauding over land rights (16095). Ends at 7.00 SKY SPORTS

6.30am Stretch (10762) 7.00 Super Trax (63888) 8.00 Muscle Night (64217) 9.00 Stretch (63878) 9.30 The Footballers' Football Show (6439) 11.30 Stretch (1439) 12.00 America's Storts Cavalcade (86052) 1.00pm Deris (22507) 3.00 Superstars (1825) 4.00 Game of Billions (97762) 5.00 Watersports (7304) 6.00 WWF Wresting (9428) 7.00 Deris (53965) 9.00 Red Line (45997) 10.00 The Club Show (44743) 10.30 Jack High (71255) 11.30 Superbours (27659) 12.30em Deris (61095) 2.30-3.00am The Club Show (77144) EUROSPORT

8.00sm Step Aerobics (88323) 8.30 Indoor Yaching (28878) 9.30 Ballants (13675) 10.30 Step Aerobics (47830) 11.00 Europoale (68052) 12.00 Sking (83120) 1.00pm Games of Billions (13588) 2.00 Termis (38233) 4.00 Games of Billions (13588) 2.00 Termis (38233) 5.00 Sking (2472) 6.00 Adventure Raid (88904) 7.00 Italian Touring Car (34781) 8.00 Eurofun (9149) 8.30 News (8559) 9.00 Cár Racing Havoc (30965) 10.00 Boxing (17235) 11.30-12.00 News (25984)

Newsbeat 12.45 Lynn Parsons 3.00 Steve Wright in the Affa

FM Sereo and MW. 4.00em Bruno Brookes with The Early Breakfest Show (FM only) 6.00 Simon Mayo 9.00 Simon Belles 12.30pm ight in the Atlemoon 6.00 Mark Goodler's Maga

3.30 Deag Reong (4923) 4.00 Water Ski Tour (3830) 4.30 Men's Volleyball (59033) 5.30 and the Wheeks (10433472) 6.30 Jem (2180052) 7.00 The Anmeted Flesh Gordon (24807) 7.30 The Anmeted Flesh Gordon (24807) 7.30 The Nighbours 2286163) 8.00 Sore and Dauphers 2474675 8.36 East-World Cup Sking (37033) 8.30 Sports Special (4830) 9.00 NBA Basketbal (26762) 11.00-1.00em Australian Open Golf (26120) LIFESTYLE

10.00em The Spiral Zone (27052) 10.30 Rush Lambaugh Show (45472) 11.00 Gloss (99120) 11.30 Joan Rivers (2553965) 12.16pm Sally Jessy Rephael (8847878) 1.10 Lunchbox (64398101) 1.40 Sall-Avision (9324588) 2.10 They're Playing Our Song (3322878) 3.00 The New Newlywed Game (87615) 4.00 Dick Van Dyke Show (8526) 4.30 Jacquor (7410) 5.00 Concentration (1507) 5.30 Sell-a-Vision (8782) 8.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (87946) 7.00 Sall-avision (241236) 10.00 Music Videos (8499120) 2.30-3.00em Top Five (83182) UK GOM D. UK GOLD

8.00em Rainbow (10445217) 8.15 Chorton

Enders (2473945) 9.00 The Bill (2497525) 9.30 One By One (3159491) 10.30 A Very Psculiar Practice (3787033) 11.30 Terry and June (1335975) 12.00 Sors and Daughters June (1335975) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (2477762) 12.30pm Neighbours (8797879) 1.00 EastEnders (2548304) 1.30 The Bill (1642520) 2.00 Father, Dear Father (2397471) 2.30 Just Good Friends (3743997) 3.00 Dallas (5674061) 4.00 The Animated Flash Gordon (3734149) 4.30 Degrass Junior High (3723133) 5.00 Neighbours (4397651) 5.30 Dr Who (3714385) bours (4397651) 5.30 Dr Who (3714385) 6.00 One by One (1842728) 7.00 Father. Dear Father (4292007) 7.30 Teny and June (3724782) 6.00 EastEnders (8997615) 8.30 Just Good Friends (3747912) 9.00 A Very Paculiar Practice (9289472) 10.00 The Bill (2478491) 10.30 The Young Ones (2494439) 11.00 The Goodies (2274205) 11.30 Firm. The Human Jungle (1954, b/w) starring Gary Mantil and Jen Sterling (6585743) 1.00-2.00mm Video Steet new releases (2895502)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather 7.00 News 7.03 A Bach Album: Remcken (Suite No 2 in 6 flet for violin, viola da gamba and continuo: L'Ecole d'Orphée); Bach (Trio Sonata in E list, BWV 525; Ton

Koopman, organ); Coreli (Concerto da chesa No 1 in D: Ensemble 415 under Chian Banchini), Legrenzi (Sonala da chiesa, Op 8, No 8, La Bevilaqua: Taverner Players under Andrew Parrott); Albinoni (Concerto in C. lor trumpet, three oboes and bassoon. The King's Consort

under Robert King) 8.03 A Bach Album (cont): Schem (Maria, georusset Ricercar Conson); Reincken (Suite No.4 for violin, viola da gamba and continuo. L'Ecole d'Orphée): Telernann (Tino in E flat: Musica Antiqua Köln uncler Reinhard Goebel): Bach (Cantala No 132: Bereitet die Wege, bereitet die Bahn: Hanover Boys' Choir, risnover Boys Chor, Leonhardt Consort under Gustav Leonhardt, with Sebastian Hannig, soprano. René Jacobs, alto, Manus van

ena, tenor, and Max van Egmond, bass) Egmond, Dass)
Composer of the Week:
Meurice Ravel. Penny Gore
and Roger Nichols continue
their tour of the composer's house and discuss his experiences in the first world war, including Piano Concerto in G (Marguerite Lond; Orchestra under Pedro de Frentas-Brancol, Piáno Trio in

recorded in cabaret at this year's Edinburgh International Festival (r) 1.00pm News 1.05 Joechim Pleno Trio performs Haydn (Trio in C, H XV 21); Dvoršk (Tino in F minor, Op 65) (r) 2.00 Record Review (r)

3.30 Eiger and the Gramophona Malcolm Ruthven introduces a

TSW As London except: 6.00 TSW Today (762) 8.30-7.00 Home and Away (994) 3.25 Film. My Mother's Secret Life (104908) 5.10-5.40

As London except: 6.00 Coast to Coast (762) 6.36-7.50 Home and Away (984)

As London except: 6.90 Tyne Tees Today (762) 6.30-7.00 Home and Away (994) 11.20 Tyne Tees Sport Special Scarbor-cugh v Arsenal (220120) 12.20 Lisa Stansfield Live at Wembley (6656665) 1.20-1.30 The Twilight Zone (3208908)

As London except: 6.00 Six Tonight (762) 6.30-7.00 Home and Away (994) 3.25 Film My Mother's Secret Life (104906) YORKSHIRE

As London except: 6.00 Calender (762) 6.36-7.30 Home and Away (394) 11.20 Your March (220120) 12.20 Lsa Stansfield Live at Wernbley (6666695) 1.20-1.30 The Twisght Zone (3208908)

HTE 1
Starts: 10.30 Check Up (4737694) 11.00
News (47334491) 11.05 Teletals (24109948)
11.30 A Gathering of Flowers (2605385)
12.00 News (26567830) 12.05 Know Your
Sport (1611830) 12.30 News Sep (1719588) 1.00 The One O'Clock News (2448694) 1.30 Aertel Financel Pages (19395697) 1.35 Vive La Difference (43921439) 2.00 The Winds of War (1430120) 3.00 Live at Three (2609101) 4.00

RADIO 4

Third of five bitter-sweet tales for Christmas. Read by Douglas Hodge (r) 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast

7.20 Costing the Earth: Rufus
Bellamy searches for an ecofriendly Christmes tree (s) (f)
7.45 Medicine Now, with Geoff

Abbev in Scotland (si 10.00 Delly Service (LW only) 10.15 Peredise Lost (LW only): John Milton's poem (36/41)

10,30 Woman's Hour Libby Spurier meets people who choose to live atone, Incl 11,00 News

12.25pm The Comedians, by Graham Greene. Third of an

2.00 Fox at the Manger: Wendy Hiler narrates an unusual retelling of the Christmas story by P.L. Travers (s) (1)
2.47 Travers (elands, with Michael Rosen (r)

3.42 The Parts: Alth Laws looks as the shopping basket
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope:
Quentin Cooper reviews the tatest Christmae film releases, including Brian de Palme's tim Reliang Cain and Kewn Costner's The Bodyguard (s)
4.45 Short Story: Changing Bables, by Deborah Woggach.

5.50 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 Six O'Clock Newa 6.30 Flying the Flag: The Pretenders. Drisdele Landen stars in Alex Shearer's comedy-drama (7/8) (s) (r) 7.00 News 7.05 The Archer's (s) 7.20 Coeffing the

7.45 Madicine Now, with Gook
Watts (f)
8.15 Age to Age turns the clock
back to 1892 and sets off for
an evening at the theatre (f)
8.45 Tolstoy — At War and
Peace: Clinging to the Branch
© CHOICE: Domestic

problems grow as Tolstoy begins work on Anna Karenina, even finding inspiration for a whole chapter from the embroidery on his from the embroidery on his dressing gown sleeve. As publication begins, he notes: "it's incredible how many people are reading it — only Pushkin and Gogol have ever been read like this." Depressive bouts continue but his spirits are lifted by a visit to Tchelkovsky and one from Turgenev which he celebrates by dencing the Can-Can and apending an evening shooting. But he cannot help seeing himself as "a quantious old men" clinging to the branch of life (s)

life (s) 9.15 Kaleidoscope (s) (r) 9.45 The Financial World

10,00 The World Tonight, with Robin Listig (s)
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Escape from Siberia, by Leon Trotaky. Andrew Sechs reads the fourth of five parts (s)
11.00 The Friend in the Corner: 1962. The BBC was 40 years old and satisfite television and stero had served.

stereo had arrived 17,30 SOS: Matthew Pams talks to nurse Frances Moore about her work in the Middle East (r) 12.00-12.43em News, and 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43 As World Service (LW only)

2.45 Maude (360385) 3.15 New Leave 1 to Beaver (310526) 3.45 D.J. Kat Show (2065273) 5.00 Star Treic The Next Generation (7912) 5.00 Rescue (2323) 8.30 E Street (3675) 7.00 Atf (1101) 7.30 Family Ties (9859) 8.00 S.LB.S (7149) 8.30 W.J.D.J. (84149) 9.30 Metrose Place (32491) 10.30 Studie (30439) 11.00 Start Treic The Next Constraint (1807) 4.00 Starts eneration (19507) 12.00 Skyleid

SKY NEWS

6.00em Showcase (7836728) 10.00 Coal Miner's Daughter (1980): Sesy Spacek stars as Lorens Lynn (53407491) 12.05ym A Thousand Heroen (1991): Affine piol Cheriton Heston has to make an emerger.cy landing (106675) 2.00 White Hunter, Black Heart (1960). Clint Eastwood as a film director who wants

200 White Pataner, Bases Press, 1990.
Chri Essavood as a film director who wants to shoot an elephant (99694)
4.00 Milister Johnson (1991): Drama about a black man in 1923 Africa (31680472)
5.50 Mr Destiny (1990): Michael Caine gives Janres Belushi the chance to live another life (98241410)
7.40 Entertaleusent Tonight (761168)
3.00 Young Gune II (1990): Emilio Essavez resums as 98/y the Kid (81675)
10.00 Presumed Innocent (1990): Hemson Forti is suspected of raping and murdisring Greta Scaach' (55907675)
12.10em Zhodalee (1990): Nicolas Cage and Judge Remhold compete for the affections of Ethic Andarson (105095)
2.00 Wilsdom (1987): Emilio Estevez and Demi Moore raid banks to help American tarmers (14687)
4.00 Opportunity Knocks (1990): Cornedy in which Dana Carvey poses as a house-state (8459). Ends at 6.00
SKY MOVIES GOLD

5.00pm The Sound of Music (1965): Musical starting Julie Andrews (757472) 8.00 Instite Dalay Clover (1965): Fictional biopic starting Natale Wood (32956052) 10.15 Villalin (1971). Richard Burton as an East End gangster (493965). Ends at 11.65

SCREENSPORT 7.00am Eurobics (31743) 7.30 Saling (50876) 8.00 Basketball (59897) 10.00 Thai Kick Box (49782) 11.00 Eurobics (37192) 11.30 NFL (25830) 1.30 pm Pro Box (87743)

Has 6.30 News 162 7.00 Mark Gooder's Evening Session 9.00 The Winaris Family in Conce 10.00 Nucky Campbell Goes into the Night 12.00-4.00mm Bob Hams (FM only) FADIO 2

FM Stero. 4.00em Bob Harrs (FM only)

FM Stero. 4.00em Alex Lester: The Early
Show 8.16 Pause for Thought 6.30 Brian
Hayes: Good Morning UKI 9.35 Pause for
Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Serah Kennedy 3.30 Ed Stero
John Dunn 7.30 Cristines Music from Vienna. José Cerreras, Piscolo Domingo and Diena
Ross 9.00 The Queen of Romance: Lesley Joseph stars at the final episode of Stephen
Sheridan's comedy 9.30 The French Had a Song for it (r) 10.00 Martin Keiner 12.30-4.00em
John Terrett with Night Ride

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour unit 7.00pm.
6.00am World Sarvos: World News; 6.09
6.00am World Sarvos: World News; 6.09
6.30 Denny Baker's Morning Edition 9.30 Andy Crane Takes Five 10.25 Wiggly Park 10.30
Johnnie Walter's Countdown to Christmas 12.30pm The Prisoner of Zende: Anthony Hope's
romenic selventure (final part) 1.00 News Update 1.10 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 1.25 6FBS Windowick 2.30
A Game of Tuo Hakes with Caron Keeting and Mark Kermode 4.30 Five Aside 6.30 The
Nutracker and the Mouselding: E.T.A. Hoffmann's story (3/4) 7.15 A Ghost for Christmas: The
messigators, by Dawd Belbin 7.30 Gary Lineker's Footbell Night 10.10 Hit the North, incl
11.00 Sport 12.00-12.10am News: Sport

WORLD SERVICES

In Sport 12.09-12.19am News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GNT, 4.30am Business Report

4.40 Travel and Weather 4.45 Programmes in

German 5.30 Europe Today 5.50 Weather 6.00

News 8.14 Travel 6.15 The World Today 6.30 Programmes in French 6.59 Weather 6.00

News 8.17 Travel 6.15 The World Today 6.30 Programmes in French 6.59 Weather 7.00

News 6.17 Travel 6.15 The World Today 6.30 Programmes in French 6.59 Weather 7.00

News 6.17 Travel 6.15 The World Today 6.30 Programmes in French 6.59 Weather 7.00

News 6.17 Travel 6.15 The World Today 6.30 World of Faith 8.15 Replace a Disc 8.30

News 6.17 Travel 6.15 The World Today 6.30 Programmes 11.30 Business Update Middley News

12.08 pm World of Feith 12.15 New Ideas 12.35 Whatever Happened To..? 12.45 Sports

Roundup 1.00 News 2.05 Outdook 2.30 Off the Shaft Peter Pan 2.45 A Morth in the Country

3.00 News 3.15 On Screen 3.30 It's a Funny Old World 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30

Programmes in German 5.00 News and Business Report 5.14 Travel 5.15 BBC English 4.30

Programmes in French 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Programmes in German 8.00 News 8.09 The

World Today 8.25 Words of Pain 8.30 Europe Tonght 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.15

Sports International 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.35 Business Report 11.15 From Ord World 1.00 News 1.05 Outlook 1.30 Wenegouide 1.40 Book Choice 1.45 The Farming World

2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Sports International 3.00 News 3.15 Bercelona Christmas Beat 3.30

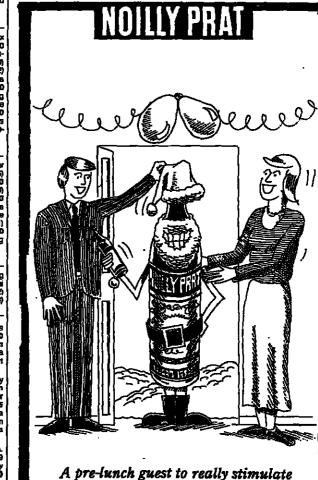
Assignment 4.00 News 4.15 The Farming World

6.00ann Nick Basiey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00

CLASSIGE MI

CLASSIC FM

Susanneh Smors 2.00pm Carlo Curly, with
the Trinky Boys' Chor, at \$1 John's, Hammerwith John Russial 8.00 Classic FM Concert 10.00 Adners Love 1.00am Robert Booth



Noilly Prat is l'aperitif definitif! Before lunch, before dinner-the delicious, dry, rounded, taste of Noilly Prat cleanses the palate and stimulates the appetite like no other aperitif. Fine wines matured in oak for 3 years in the sundrenched South of France, enriched with a secret blend

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COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND HEATHER ALSTON TV CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE KENNETH GOSLING





A minor (Jascha Heifett, wohn, Gregor Pieligorsky, cetto, and Artur Rubinstein, piano) 10.00 Midwesk Choice, presented by Susan Sharpe. A selection of listeners' requests celebrating Christmas around the world (r)
12.00 Elisabeth Söderström: The 4 soprano presents a personal selection of late-night songs

recording of the Enigma
Vanations made in 1926 by the
Gramophone Company using
the new electrical process
4.00 Choral Evensong, live from
Cartisrbury Cathedral
5.00 The English Concert under
Trevor Prinnock performs
Telemann (Concerto in D);
Vivaldi (Concerto in B minor for
four volars, RVS80); Bach
(Surte No 3 in D, EWV 1088)
(r)

5.50 Breaking the Ice: A Celebration of Icetandic Culture. Gunnar

Culture. Gunnar
Gudbjornsson, tenor, Philip
Jenkins, piano, perform a
recital of songs by 20thcentury Icelandic composers
6.30 Mozart. Divertimento in B flat. 6.30 Mozart: Divertimento in B flat. K240 performed by Berlin Philharmone Wind Players
6.45 The Russian Vlolin School: Nathan Milistein. In the third of seven programmes, Michael Half considers Milistein's playing. With music from Beethoven, Tcharkovsky, Giacunov, Prokofiev, Bach and Brahms (Sonata in D minor)
7.30 Meastaen: Vingt regards sur

7.30 Messiaen: Vingt regards sur renfant Jésus. The Found blave the ebic blave comboses, a migran Annual Court of the series cycle of contemplations on the child Jesus, including at 8.20-8.25 Interval Reading 9.35 The Gothic Imagination: The Monster. In his last talk, Philip Dodd finds cut what stitutes a monster and why

consumes a monster and why they fascinate us, with reference to Frankenstein, Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde and Moby Dick 9.55 Haydo Batore and After Hayon Balore and James Paris. Hayon symphonies from the beginning and end of the 1780s. Symphony No 78 in C minor (Hanover Band under No. Roy Goodman): Symphony No 89 in F (La Petite Bande under Sigiswald Kuijken)...

10.45 Book, Music and Lyrics: As Thousands Cheer — Irving Berlin, Robert Cushman presents a personal view of musicals (r)
11.30 Bach Violin Sonatas: Ruth Wesemen, wolin, and Moray Ritt, pano, perform Sonata No 1 in B minor, BWV 1014; Sonata No 4 at C minor, BWV 1017; Sonata No 3 in E. BWV 1016 12.30-12.35am News

(s) Stereo on FM
5.55am Shipping Forecast
6.00 News Briefing, incl 6.03
Weather 6.10 Farming Today
6.25 Prayer for the Day, with
Mary Murphy 6.30 Today, incl
6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30
News 6.45 Business News
6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25
Sports News 7.45 Thought for
the Day, with Eletine Storkey
8.43 The House at Pooh
Corner: Piglet and the
Heffallump, read by Alan
Bennett (r) 8.58 Weather
9.00 News

9.00 News 9.05 Mildweek, with Libby Purves and birthday guest Christopher Cazenove (s)
10.00-10.30 This Happy Breed (FM only): Jennifer Holden meets the monks at Pluscarden

11.00 News
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time:
Members of the Garstang and
District Gardening Club in
Lancashire put their questions
to the experts. With Clay Jones
in the chair (f)
12.00 You and Yours, with John

eight-part dramatisation. Starring Michael Kitchen as Brown (3/8) (s) 12.55 Weath 1.00 The World at One 1.40 The Archers (s) (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast

3.00 File on 4 (t) 3.42 The Parts; Alun Lewis looks at

Tonight, with Roger White (s) 9.59 Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, with

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: FM-90.2-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; LBC: 1152kHz/267m; FM-97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM-96.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM-94.9; World Service: MW 548kHz/463m. Classic FM: FM-100-102.

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British tennis dealt further blow

Brighton event's loss of sponsor deepens gloom

By Andrew Longmore, tennis correspondent

Midland Bank pulled out of its sponsorship of the women's indoor tournament in Brighton after five years. The move, which was made for "policy" reasons, came as a surprise to the Lawn Tennis Association and to George Hendon, the tournament director, and adds to the growing concern over the future, not just of the \$375,000 event in October, but of the financial structure of

the British tennis calendar. "It's a big blow, there is no doubt about that," John Feaver, the LTA tournament director, said yesterday. "Bigtime tennis is becoming very expensive and Midland have decided they want to shift the emphasis of their sponsorship, but the tournament is making money now and that gives us hope for finding a

replacement." This year, sponsors have already withdrawn from backing the pre-Wimbledon women's championships at Eastbourne and Birmingham, while the Diet Pepsi men's indoor tournament was sold to Antwerp after incurring heavy losses. Should Brighton not find a backer, there could be no internation-

1 Islamic ruler (5)

Academic (7)

10 Coast inlet (3)

12 Leather strap (5)

16 Stadium gate (9)

20 Ship's record (3)

22 Take over from (7)

23 The Creation composer

SOLUTIONS TO NO 2977

18 Find 20 Rut 21 Wit

This position is a variation

from the game Smyslov -

Kosten, Foreign & Colonial

Hastings Premier 1988/89.

Tony Kosten qualified for the Premier tournament by win-

ning the previous year's Chal-

lengers tournament. He

demonstrated his strength by

winning an early game against former world cham-

pion Vassily Smyslov. How

can black force a quick check-

mate? British grandmasters

Nunn and Speelman will be

among the eight players in the top section of this year's

13 Available (2,3)

18 Pea case (3)

21 Deceitful (9)

11 Elizabeth I favourite (9)

al-class tennis in Britain for 1 l months of the year.

"It's got to be worrying," Feaver said. "If things don't pick up in the new year, it will become very tricky indeed. We have lost quite a few events in the last five years and the calendar is already looking a little thin." While Volkswagen have replaced Pilkington Glass as sponsors of the chamthe week before Wimbledon, no sponsor has been found for the former Dow Classic at

Edgbaston in June. Midland's decision to withdraw came just three months



Graf: six-time winner

I Good prospect (5)

2 Not recently (4,3)

5 Worldly paradise (6,2,5)

Rodent snare (3,4)

14 Bush shaping (7)

19 Murdered (3,2)

12 Gossiper (7)

15 Centre (6)

17 Kingly (5)

WINNING MOVE

ther details from the British

Chess Federation on 0424

442500 (Raymond Keene).

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Solution on page 28.

ACROSS: I Specie 5 Damage 8 Brew 9 Popinjay 10 Physic 12 Soft 15 Peace and quiet 16 Stye 17 Meekly 19 Traction 2I Wand 22 Stewed 23 Sitter

DOWN: 2 Parchment 3 Cow 4 Especial 5 Dope 6 Minuscule 7 Goa 11 Sacred cow 13 Freelance 14 Oddments

CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: For mail order details of all Times Crossword Books and The Times Computer Crossword software with help levels, (runs on most PCs), call Akom Ltd on 081 852 4575 (24 hrs) or CDS on 0302 890000 - STOP PRESS! just released - the First Book of The Times Jumbo Concise Crosswords - ring Akom. Postage free until Christmas (applies UK only).

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2978

after the company had indicated, at the end of the 1992 championships won by Steffi Graf for the sixth time, it would continue sponsorship

"The people who look after our sponsorship policy want to

withdrawal, Midland has

This year's field, which included four of the top 10, years. "It's a good product," Feaver said. "We have a guaranteed draw and guaranteed television, so I would be confident of finding a new sponsor. But there is not that

for another year at least.

"I was surprised by the announcement," Hendon said. "But we shall just have to find someone else to carry the flag. It's a tournament that is certainly going places. There is money for sponsorship of quality events, but the recession is making it very

Midland, which took over from Pretty Polly as title sponsors five years ago, has invested £1.5 million in the championships, but the good news for the LTA, at least, is that the bank intends to continue its involvement with grass-roots tennis, supporting the national junior championships and the schools competi-

spend more on communitybased activities, not on highprofile international events. It is a new direction for us. We are not pulling out of tennis altogether," Alan Furniss, manager of sponsorship and donations for Midland, said. Whatever the reasons for the

guided the tournament through a difficult period when interest was sustained largely by the presence of Graf, who has won the title for six of the last seven years and joined such distinguished champions as Martina Navratilova, Chris Evert and Gabriela Sabatini on the roll of honour since Brighton first hosted the event in 1978.

Even if the tournament did not get backing for 1993, the LTA would almost certainly underwrite it for a year. The wider implications for the structure of the women's game are equally worrying. Next year, 13 events on the Kraft tour will have prize-money of \$750,000, but many of the smaller tournaments are finding it difficult to make ends



Harrow, the favourite, won the senior event of the public schools rackets championship, the Foster Cup, in impressive style yesterday,

Eye on the title: Harry Foster, of defeating Gareth Rees, of Clifton, in off the back wall for his hard-hitting straight games.
Foster, who had scarcely been

opponent. Despite a brief rally in the third game, the powerful Rees was always under pressure from an

Results page 30

Scarborough hope for live television windfall

By Our Sports Staff For Scarborough, though,

the delay could prove richly

rewarding. The new date

means the ne may now be

suits the demands of the

television companies, and that

will bring Scarborough an

approximate £100,000 wind-

fall if the game, already a sell-

IF ARSENAL were cursing yesterday's postponement of tonight's Coca-Cola Cup fifthround tie at Scarborough, third division were ready to celebrate.

The decision to call off the game owing to the deep frost that has affected Scarborough's Seamer Road pitch has left Arsenal with the prospect of two treacherous cup trips in the space of four days. The game has now been switched to January 6, immediately after Arsenal travel to Yeovil, the most famous giantkillers of them all, in the FA Cup and, though the respite will give the Highbury medical staff extra time to clear up a crop of niggling injuries, it puts their season on a knife-

out, is screened. "Under the agreement, clubs do not receive exta money for recorded programmes from the ITV companies, but there is a substantial fee for live games," Geoffrey Richmond, the club chairman, said: "Should it be on TV live, it would mean this

rather than silver lining for Arsenal's mood is decidedly less optimistic. They will need

particular cloud has a golden

no reminding that it was on ham humiliated them in last season's FA Cup and their Houston, said yesterday: "We've just got to make sure we approach both games with the right attitude. The disappointment is that it has been put back another two weeks and threatens a build-up of

While cold weather has reduced the scheduled midweek fixture list, the Premier League is confident of promoting an unscathed Boxing Day programme. Ironically, the only club with any doubts is Nottingham Forest, the club waiting to play the winners of the Scarborough v Arsenal game in the Coca Cola Cup

Kharin cleared to play for Chelsea

CHELSEA'S Russian recruit. Dmitri Kharin, could be in Premier League action before the start of the new year. The goalkeeper from the CSKA Moscow club is due to make his bow in English football in the Ovenden Combination lowing the receipt of his international dearance.

Kharin, first choice for the CIS first during the European championships last summer, has cost Chelsea a fee of £200,000. Additional money to be paid to his former club will depend on the number of appearances be makes.

Kharin's availability leaves the Chelsea manager, Ian

sion to make. Kevin Hitchcock who was brought into the side dropped in September, has conceded only 12 goals in 17 games during s run that has seen Chelsea rise to fifth in the

Hitchcock, 30, signed a new two-year contract soon after Beasant was left out after making two bad errors in the

game against Norwich. Tranmere's former Chelsea player, the Scottish international Pat Nevin, is fit again eight days after a keyhole operation for appendicitis and is likely to play against Millwall on Boxing Day.

LINFORD Christie, the Livingston, braced himself for the decision today on his disciplinary hearing over

the Sports Council, citing their bad timing of releasing news of Livingston's positive drugs test when the Olympic

plinary committee, which on Monday heard Livingston's

If the verdict goes against Livingston, 21, he would be the highest profile British athlete to be banned for failing a test and could be sidelined

But Christie claimed athletics was wrongly portrayed as being rife with drugs prob-lems. "Every time there's a problem, it always down to track and field. It's only because of athletics' high profile that we are always singled out, but there are a lot of sports

"It's about time people realised this. Why should we always be criticised for actually doing a good job trying to

can say is that the problem in Barcelona should not have been a problem for the Olympic team. The news shouldn't have come out there. Why did it take the Sports Council so

long to do what they did?" Meanwhile, other British sprinters were eager for the Livingston case to be cleared up. Jamie Baulch, one of the world junior 4 x 100 metres relay trile in Seoul, said: "I felt it should have been sorted out straight away. I'm surprised it's dragged on so long."

Christie defends stance on drugs

Olympic 100 metres champion, yesterday insisted athletics was cleaning up its act as his former training partner, Jason

Christie was also critical of team was already in Barcelona. He made his comments as the British Athletic Federation's drugs advisory group was meeting to consider the recommendations of the disciplea that he was innocent of any drugs offence.

from the sport for four years.

clean up our sport?"

Christie, the captain of the British team in Barcelona, would not be drawn on his thoughts about Livingston, his fellow sprinter who was sent home from Barcelona after a pre-Games drugs test was revealed to be positive for the anabolic steroid, Methandianone. "It's nothing to do with me. The verdict is tomorrow and I wouldn't want to say anything to prejudice the re-

But Christie added: "All I

Award winners, page 28

New Ferrari fails test at the first hurdle

Fiorano, Italy: Ferrari's new Formula One car broke down before it reached the test track resterday. An oil cooler on the hydraulic suspension circuit failed as soon as the Ferrari 644-B model was switched on and the test session had to be cancelled.

The breakdown clearly frus-trated the team's French driver, Jean Alesi, and a group of Ferrari followers, who had come to see the car put

"The problem may have corded the last of its 103 occurred because it was so Formula One race victories in cold," a Ferrari spokesman. the Spanish grand prix in Giancarlo Baccini, said. "We 1990. Since then, however.

they have struggled to keep pace with the British teams, McLaren and Williams. have to carry out a number of tests now, but, hopefully, we can get the car on the track tomorrow afternoon. Otherwise, we will have to put things

off until after Christmas." Baccini added that the planned presentation of the car to the press on Wednesday morning would go ahead. The car is a modified version of the model that Ferrari raced last The Italian team, the most glamorous in the sport, re-

Their latest model has been constructed with the approval of the British designer John Barnard, who returned to Ferrari as head of research and development last July. The 644-B has a reshaped body and a new suspension system. The team have aban-

doned experiments with a flatter-bottomed aerodynamic design. It is seen as a stop-gap measure while Barnard prepares its successor, which Ferrari hope to have ready by ☐ Organisers have set aside dates for a French motorcycle grand prix next year in the hope that the cancelled race could be reinstated following government compromises on its tough anti-tobacco advertis-

International Motorcycling Federation (FIM) believes recent moves, including an amendment by

the French government allowing television coverage of foreign races showing tobacco advertising, was a promising sign that the Magny Cours event could yet be staged (Agencies)

bley, the England v Scotland rugby union match at Twickenham and the



THE

Hastings tournament. Fur-WORD-WATCHING By PHILIP HOWARD

SQUAREHEAD a. An American brigantine

b. An idiot c. An honest person WALPURGITE

b. A yellow crystal

c. The midnight rose

a. The Finnish penny b. An Amerindian tribe and c. A vestigial wing in reptiles REDUND a. To make redundant a. A junior member of a

b. The backwash of a wave c. A red German hound Answers on page 28

The Times tomorrow presents its

the facts and trivia of sport. An array of Jumbo Christmas Sports Crossword — prizes includes tickets for England's the annual test of your knowledge of World Cup football matches at Wem-